

Ready, set, time for AIDS Walk
SFAF event on Sunday has new program
to let some groups raise more money.

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Fighting to overturn DADT
One of two lawsuits gets first
hearing in federal court.

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Thai reverie
'Tropical Melody'
opens on U.S. screens.

see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

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Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Bisexual community blasts Bailey study

by Liz Highleyman

The bisexual community and LGBT advocacy groups last week denounced a sensationalistic news story about a psychological study casting doubt on the validity of male bisexual attraction.

The study, "Sexual Arousal Patterns of Bisexual Men," by Gerulf Rieger and colleagues from Northwestern University in Chicago and the Center for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto, was reported on the front page of the July 5 New York Times science section in a story by Benedict Carey entitled, "Straight, Gay or Lying: Bisexuality Revisited." The article was picked up by news outlets worldwide and was widely circulated on the Internet.

The study, scheduled for publication in the journal *Psychological Science*, used a penile gauge to measure the genital arousal patterns of 101 self-identified gay, straight, and bi men — recruited through ads in gay and alternative publications — as they watched different types of erotic movies.

While, as expected, the heterosexual men were aroused by depictions of two women having sex and the homosexual men were aroused by images of two men together, the researchers found that the bisexual men were predominantly aroused by images of one or the other sex. Three-quarters of the bisexual men showed arousal patterns indistinguishable from those of the gay men, while the remainder resembled the heterosexuals. About one-third of the subjects in each orientation group did not demonstrate significant arousal in response to any of the images.

According to Carey, the study "lends support to those who have long been skeptical that bisexuality is a distinct and stable sexual orientation."

The study authors offered some qualifications and caveats in their article that were not reflected in the Times story.

"In contrast to bisexual men's genital arousal, their subjective [self-reported] arousal did show the expected pattern," they wrote, adding that the issue might be clarified by measuring brain activation patterns, which "could have higher validity than penile erection or self-reported arousal." While acknowledging that, "[i]n terms of behavior and identity, bisexual men clearly exist," the authors concluded

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Lazy Bear Weekend turns 10

by Jeffrey M. Glover

Bears crowd around the pool at Fife's Resort at last year's Lazy Bear Weekend.



Lynn Ludwig

Harry Lit knows a good thing when he sees it. In July 1995, he was sitting around the pool with some friends at the Triple-R Resort in Guerneville, California, and it occurred to him that the area would make for a great place for a bear gathering. Such gatherings (also known as "bear runs") were starting to pop up all around the country and he could think of no better setting than the Russian River.

When asked how a small gathering of friends could balloon into Guerneville's largest annual event, Lit was rather modest. "It was actually my friends Bob Young, of Herth Real Estate and Jeff Bridges from the Triple-R who suggested that with my marketing background that I should make it an annual party," Lit said. "Because of my already busy work schedule, I told the guys I wanted to just be 'lazy' when I come up to the river. Hence the name was born."

Lit could not have picked a better time to bring people up to the Russian River. The previous year the town had just suffered the worst flooding in its history and it needed a "feel good" party to let people know it was safe to come back.

And come back they did. Over the next 10 years Lazy Bear Weekend, which starts today (Thursday, July 14), continued to grow despite the abundance of alternative bear runs that have cropped up since its inception. Why do bears and their admirers still come? Bay Area resident Donovan Whitehurst thinks it's because of the uniqueness of the event. "The fact that it's a large scale charity is very appealing to

me," said Whitehurst. "And no other bear event takes over an entire town for a weekend. We call it 'Safeway camping.' It's camping, but only a few steps away are a grocery store, several gay bars, and thousands of bears. No other bear run can compete with that."

This will be Whitehurst's fifth pilgrimage up to the Russian River for Lazy Bear Weekend. He and his partner Fred Bothe join many of the large groups of bears that rent several tent sites at Fife's and deck them out with elaborate decorations, huge canopies, picnic tables, and even inflatable palm trees. "Each year we've got about nine tents in our sites and about 20-25 people. Mostly good friends and their friends, but everyone is welcome to hang out. It's a party!"

Well-known bear photographer Lynn Ludwig agreed. "Sometime a magical energy emerges in the afternoon," Ludwig observed. "When the dance music starts and everybody is grooving around the pool — it's a great group moment." However, Ludwig knows that not everyone is into the same party scene. "Some campers choose to seldom leave their campsites, foregoing the crowds at the pool. I think it is cool that while a great many people visit Lazy Bear, they can choose how close in to the party they want to get — some prefer canoeing, wine tasting, visiting the redwoods or the beach over the big pool parties, and some can do it all. That's special."

As a Guerneville resident, Ludwig understands the symbiotic relationship between the bears and the local business people. "Locals —

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Natali sells Pendulum

by Matthew S. Bajko

Settling a lawsuit filed last summer, embattled bar owner Les Natali has sold his ownership of the Pendulum, the Castro bar that caters to an African American clientele.

Natali, who has appealed a city finding that he engaged in racist practices at his bar, San Francisco Badlands, agreed to transfer his 90 percent stake in the Pendulum to J&G Entertainment LLC, for an undisclosed amount. The parties finalized the deal Tuesday, July 12.

John MacNeil and Gail Irwin, who sued both Natali and former Pendulum owner Rod Kobila on June 17, 2004 for breach of contract, control J&G Entertainment. The two alleged they had a verbal agreement with Kobila to purchase the 18th Street bar, but at the last minute, Kobila sold it to Natali, who offered a higher price. Their lawsuit claimed they were owed \$500,000 in damages.

Natali could not be reached for comment by press time Wednesday. His attorney, Richard Stephen Goldstein, also could not be reached. Last summer, Goldstein told the Bay Area Reporter that MacNeil and Irwin "had no grounds for a lawsuit" and was confident his client would prevail.

On Wednesday morning a "shocked" MacNeil said he still could not believe he finally won control of the bar.

"It's been a long battle. I am a little shell-shocked myself," said MacNeil, who is openly gay and lives in Berkeley. "I am very happy."

MacNeil, who used to own Hortica, a floral shop on Castro Street, said he plans to renovate the bar.

"That place hasn't been touched in probably 30 years or so. It definitely could use a remodel," said MacNeil, who four months ago also bought the B Street Tavern in Marin. "As soon as I can do it the better. I still go to the neighborhood all the time and there is absolutely no one in that place on weekday nights. That has to improve. By fixing up the bar I think that would help."

MacNeil, who is Caucasian, said he also wants to reach out to the black community, the bar's regular patrons, and the community group And Castro For All, which brought the racism charges against Natali and has staged weekly Saturday night protests outside SF Badlands.

"The best thing I can do is listen to them right now. I haven't been paying much attention to it since it was not my bar. I tried to stay out of it until now," he said.

Irwin will be a silent partner in the bar, MacNeil said. He has yet to talk with the owner of the remaining 10 percent of the Pendulum. As for Natali's agreeing to relinquish ownership, MacNeil said the strife of

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Les Natali

Rick Gutierrez




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Panel OKs marriage bill

by Matthew S. Bajko

Breathing new life into attempts to legislatively legalize same-sex marriage in California, a state Senate committee Tuesday, July 12 revived a bill that would make the state's marriage laws gender neutral. The bill had died last month in the state Assembly.

With a 5-2 vote, the Senate Judiciary Committee passed the Religious Freedom and Civil Marriage Protection Act introduced by Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San

Francisco). Under a process called "gut and amend" Leno switched the original language of Assembly Bill 849 with the pro-gay marriage bill's language. Leno's bill had been numbered AB19.

The bill, which is backed by state Senate Pro Tem Don Perata (D-Oakland), now heads to the Senate Appropriations Committee after legislators return from summer recess on August 15. The appropriations committee, chaired by out lesbian state Senator Carole Migden (D-San Francisco), is expected to approve the measure.

If approved by the full Senate,

the bill will return to the Assembly, where it fell four votes short for passage. The statehouse's LGBT lawmakers have been lobbying Assembly members and expect the Senate's backing of the bill will help them find the necessary votes.

"I am buoyed by the support of many of my colleagues in the Senate, who are co-authors of the measure, and who believe we can pass this bill this year and move it out of the Assembly and to the governor's desk this September," stated Leno after the committee voted around 5:30 p.m. Tuesday. ▼

HIV agency, sex club mark 13-year anniversary

by Tyson Gillfillan

In what some have called an extraordinarily long partnership, the UCSF AIDS Health Project, an HIV mental health and outreach organization, and Blow Buddies, one of the city's most popular sex clubs for men, are celebrating 13 years of collaboration to stop the spread of HIV.

This relationship was recognized at a small ceremony Tuesday, July 5 at the AHP Services Center, where staff presented Russ Bono, co-owner of Blow Buddies, with a certificate of appreciation for his club's longstanding support. The two organizations have also jointly sponsored ads in the Bay Area Reporter that celebrate their work together.

The collaboration began in 1992 when Brad Grant, the original Blow Buddies owner, designated an area of his club for the AHP's mobile testing unit to set up a regular HIV/STD testing and counseling site. When Chuck Sarno and Bono bought the club five years ago, they continued to champion the program.

"It just made sense," said Bono. "[HIV testing] first started at Blow Buddies as a way to show the members and the community that



Blow Buddies co-owner Russ Bono

the club really does care about their health. This is something we've always felt strongly about, and will continue to do so in the years to come."

Barb Adler, program manager of AHP's HIV antibody testing services, thanked Bono for his club's "pioneering service to the community" and for so fully supporting the agency's mission to provide "counseling and education to stop the spread of HIV infection."

"From a prevention standpoint," said Adler, "these guys have really been wonderful. It can be hard for clubs to physically manage this kind of service, but Blow Buddies stepped up, providing a separate area for our counselors to

work, and they do an amazing amount of health education there."

"These guys have been ahead of the curve," said Adler. Mentioning AHP's longstanding relationship with Blow Buddies, as well as Castro sex club Eros, she said that the prominent sex clubs in San Francisco are today taking public health seriously.

Adler said that on average, about 15 guys each month get tested at the AHP's Blow Buddies mobile outreach unit. That's a relatively small number compared to the 5,000-plus individuals that turn to the AHP each year for HIV testing. But Adler said it's not the volume of testing that's important for the mobile outreach units.

"Not everyone will feel comfortable coming to a building with 'AIDS' on the door," said Adler. "When we have partners like Blow Buddies, we're reaching people in the community who might not otherwise have gotten tested." ▼

AHP and Blow Buddies offer HIV and STD testing and counseling the first Thursday and third Friday of each month. More information is available at www.ucsf-ahp.org or www.blowbuddies.com.

Correction

Last week's news brief item about the Commonwealth Club forum on LGBT seniors incorrectly stated that Hadley Dale Hall is the executive director of Openhouse, the San Francisco nonprofit working to build a housing complex for LGBT seniors. Linda Carlson remains the agency's director. For an update, see story, page 15.

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Gay lawyer set to purchase the End Up

by Matthew S. Bajko

A group of investors led by a gay San Francisco lawyer is in escrow to buy the End Up, San Francisco's internationally lauded and infamous nightclub.

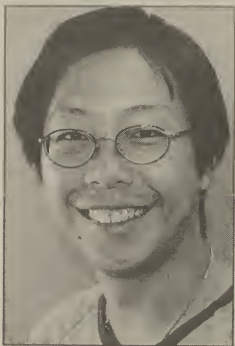
The buyers beat out several interested parties for the three-decades-old South of Market club made famous in Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*. While details of the sale have not been disclosed, the buyers reportedly offered to pay more than \$900,000 and will receive a 10-years-plus lease. The club had been listed for sale in April with an asking price of \$829,000.

"This is the best transition the club has ever experienced. It is a planned transfer rather than one by disaster. It will be an upgrade, definitely, for the club," said Carl Hanken, who with his wife, Helga, has run the club since the mid-1990s after the deaths of his two brothers. "This is a definite benefit for the gay scene."

The buyers include 32-year-old Sydney Leung, a 1999 graduate from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law; Leung's brother-in-law Steven Barrenechea, 47, who has worked in New York and Connecticut nightspots and is moving to the Bay Area; and married couple Zoltan and Ynez Stiener, both 36. Zoltan handles security for San Francisco clubs, while Ynez works for Mezzanine and used to work at the now closed Club Universe.

"We are very excited. The End Up is so special. It is a place where you can be yourself and be comfortable. That is something we see as the core of the End Up," said Leung, who has a partner of four years. "We know there are always trends in nightclubs. But the End Up has always been there and we hope to continue to be there another 32 years."

It is estimated the new owners will close escrow and complete the permit process by late August. Both the state Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the city's Entertainment Commission must approve transfer of the club's liquor license and entertainment permits, respectively. The group does not expect to make any major changes. Leung said they intend to maintain the long-running gay Friday night party Fag



New End Up owner Sydney Leung

Fridays as well as the current lineup of party promoters, DJs and staff.

"You will see incremental changes but not to the backbone of what the End Up is. We are looking at cleaning up the patio, making the back room a little nicer, changes like that," he said. "The events we have right now we don't see any changes. We love all the promoters and in-house events, we just want to make it better."

Since January, Leung and his partners have wanted to become club owners and began looking for a property to purchase. When the End Up became available, he said they jumped at the chance.

"It really is a fabric of San Francisco and has such a long history that we felt very honored to have the opportunity to continue the tradition that Carl and his brothers had started," said Leung, who moved from Hong Kong in 1989 to Boston and then relocated to San Francisco in 1994.

Leung, formerly with the firm of Carroll Burdick and McDonough, opened his own practice in

2001. He served on the board of Compass Community Services and also advised, pro bono, The Moth, a nonprofit storytelling club in Manhattan. Fluent in Cantonese and Mandarin, Leung said his full-time job beginning this fall will be running the club.

Asked if he is nervous of the career change, Leung said, "If we are nervous, we are nervous because we want to make sure that same spirit and energy continues at the End Up. We want to leverage the potential already there. Carl has done a great job making the End Up and that environment. Now there are four of us, we can work four times harder."

Club's problematic past

Al Hanken opened the doors to the End Up in 1973 and it quickly became a popular gay hangout. Known for bringing in international DJ talent and marathon days-long parties during big holiday weekends, the End Up also saw its fair share of mayhem, drug busts, an arson fire that gutted the upstairs hotel rooms, and repeated rumors of its demise over the last three decades.

The club rode out the disco craze and survived the AIDS epidemic of the 1980s. Upon Al's death from AIDS in 1988, his brother Helmut and the club's general manager, Doug Whitmore, took it over, reportedly selling cocaine out of the upstairs offices.

Then in 1993, according to published reports, Helmut died in a strange gun accident at a time when the club faced past tax bills, unpaid expenses, and was set to close. Carl and his wife took over in 1994 and set out to clean house and revive the business.

Whitmore, they learned, had been using the End Up as his per-

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'Art for AIDS' auction Friday

compiled by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco's premiere art event supporting the UCSF AIDS Health Project takes place Friday, July 15. "Art for AIDS" is an auction that will see more than 250 works of art – photographs, oils, watercolors, and acrylics on canvas and wood; prints and mixed media; bronzes; and art glass – sold to the highest bidders while delicacies and libations are consumed by an expected crowd of 500 people.

This year marks the ninth Art for AIDS auction. "The event connects the art world – a community deeply aware of the epidemic's toll – with one of the nation's leading HIV prevention and care organizations," said Dr. James Dilley, executive director of the AIDS Health Project. "Together we are a community that cares and responds."

Like the past four years, Art for Life takes place at Bonhams & Butterfields, 220 San Bruno Avenue at 15th Street in San Francisco. The event begins with a silent auction and reception at 5:30 p.m. followed by the live auction at 7:30. Tickets start at \$25 per person. Organizers noted that many items carry minimum bids of \$100 or less. Additionally, several items bring a purely San Francisco flavor to the event, with depictions of the city as well as scenes from past Folsom Street fairs and local hangouts.

AHP provides anonymous HIV counseling and testing, risk-reduction services, support groups and individual therapy, crisis intervention, and substance abuse case management to 10,000 clients annually.

Each auction lot is illustrated online and pre-event bids can be submitted via the Web site www.ArtforAIDS.org. For more information, call Victoria Karno at (415) 502-5859 or e-mail at vginn@itsa.ucsf.edu.



News Briefs

GuyWriters social tonight

GuyWriters, an organization of gay male writers in the Bay Area, will hold its inaugural monthly social tonight (Thursday, July 14) at 7 p.m. at the Three Dollar Bill Café inside the LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street in San Francisco. The group's poets, fiction writers, and playwrights will read from their works at the event, which aims to build community and promote networking among gay writers.

The evening's special guest will be novelist Frederick Smith, author of *Down For Whatever*.

Interested members of the public are welcome to attend; the event is free. For more information, call the venue at (415) 503-1532, e-mail GuyWriters@yahoo.com, or visit www.GuyWriters.org.

Feinberg at Women's Building

Leslie Feinberg, a longtime transgender activist and author of *Stone Butch Blues*, will speak at "Lavender and Red," Friday, July 15 at 7 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3542 18th Street in San Francisco. Also on the program, sponsored by the Workers World Party, will be Nedjula Baguio, a transgender prisoners' rights activist. Donations are requested but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. For more information, call (415) 561-9752.

Benefit for China AIDS relief

A tea party benefiting AIDS Relief Fund for China is scheduled for Saturday, July 16 from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Banyan Room at the Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center, 730 Polk Street, 4th floor in San Francisco. The event is free. Humphrey Wou, program director for AREC, noted that the fund was started in 2003 and provides small grants to grassroots HIV prevention and AIDS service organizations in China. Small grants

provide much-needed support for start-up groups, pilot projects, and leadership development.

To RSVP for Saturday's event, e-mail info@arfcusa.org. For more information about the organization, visit www.arfcusa.org.

Update on TG murder, Araujo retrial

Community United Against Violence will hold a community update on the murder of Delicious "Tony" Green Wednesday, July 20 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Rainbow Room of the LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street in San Francisco. Green, 46, an African American transgender woman, was beaten, raped, and murdered on August 13, 2004 in the Franciscan Motel in the city. Green's sister, Linda Porter, is also expected to be on hand to speak about her experiences throughout the investigation, as will representatives from the San Francisco Police Department and the district attorney's office.

Also at next week's meeting, CUAV will provide an update on the retrial of the three defendants accused of murdering transgender teenager Gwen Araujo, which is now under way at the Hayward Hall of Justice.

Next week's event is sponsored by the Horizons Foundation, the community center, the Transgender Law Center, and the Gay Straight Alliance Network. For more information, call CUAV at (415) 777-5500.

Medical pot benefit

Krewe de Kinque, San Francisco's Mardi Gras organization, will host a "Full Moon" contest benefiting Americans for Safe Access Thursday, July 21 from 8 to 11 p.m. at the Edge bar, 4149 18th Street. The Full Moon contest, held every other month, is an opportunity for bar patrons to show off their "assets" and answer zany questions from the celebrity judges in hopes of walking off stage with a \$100 cash prize. There is no cover charge and contestants may enter the contest that evening.

An \$8 per person beer and soda benefit will be offered, along with a raffle drawing. Proceeds will be split evenly between Krewe de Kinque and Americans for Safe Access, a grassroots coalition working to protect the rights of patients and doctors to legally use marijuana for medical purposes. For more information, visit www.safeaccessnow.org or www.sfkinque.com.

Animal shelter benefit

When San Francisco Animal Care and Control celebrates its "Sweet 16" anniversary with a party at El Rio Thursday, July 21, the works of many Bay Area artists will be featured in both silent and live auctions.

The event runs from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at 3158 Mission Street in San Francisco and features celebrity auctioneers Jessica Aguirre of ABC 7 News and Deirdre Kennedy, producer of the KUSF program "Animals Aloud." In addition to art, other items to be auctioned include airline tickets, B&B stays, and restaurant and bodywork gift certificates.

Admission is \$25 per person and includes vegetarian pizzas, vegan hors d'oeuvres, pies, and El Rio's full no-host bar. DJ Robbie Socks will spin tunes.

For more information about the upcoming party, call (415) 822-5566. For more information about ACC, call (415) 554-6364. ▼

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Cancer survivor inspires 'Relay for Life' team

by Kevin Davis

A year after doctors removed part of his colon and most of his liver and enduring months of chemotherapy, San Francisco resident Joe Cote is organizing the first gay team for the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" event next month.

At the August 20-21 Crissy Field event relay teams, who do their own media outreach, some creating team Web sites with secure online donation components — pay a \$150.00 commitment fee, camp out, and take turns walking a track. As of early July 12, teams of 12-15 people, each committing to raise \$100, had signed up.

The 24-hour event parallels the fact that someone lives with cancer 24 hours per day.

"Cancer doesn't sleep," said Cote, 47, who published, edited, and distributed a one-page SF Gay Guide in the early 1990s. "Neither do we."

Last spring the cancer society invited Cote to take part in the first of 50 unique Bay Area relays, in an inspirational "Survivors Lap" kick-off at San Francisco State University.

"You find as many people dying of cancer as AIDS these days," said Cote, who two weeks ago mud wrestled for charity at the Eagle Tavern and admits to an occasional cocktail at the Hole in the Wall Saloon. "I feel strongly this should be addressed."

"I thought, I can do one of these — put a team together, bring awareness to the community, raise money," he added.

In March 2004, Cote left his house-painting job with a painful bump on his lower abdomen, and asked his partner Bob Johnston, 68, to call 911.

Shortly after undergoing tests, doctors removed six inches of colon. Two days after that they removed three-fourths of his liver where the cancer had metastasized.

He attributed his weight loss from 130 to 98 pounds during his 22-day hospital stay to nerves and,

"I hate hospital food."

Johnston earned a small caregiver's stipend from the state for assisting Cote, after an agent came to confirm that their home had decent kitchen and bath facilities. However, Johnston lost money when a caregiver's union membership fee was deducted.

"Between the two of us, we're not taking any trips to Aruba this month," said Cote who also receives SSI and Medi-Cal.

Johnston, who has volunteered for Project Open Hand, the downtown senior center, and as an usher at American Conservatory Theatre, has durable power of attorney for medical and financial purposes.

Cote finished chemotherapy treatment last November, just ended six months of counseling, and said he has almost fully regained his health and weight, though doctors say sometime in the next three years he will find out "when, not if" his cancer returns.

Since 1985 when a Tacoma, Washington colorectal surgeon circled a track for 83 miles to raise cancer prevention funds, this year's 20th anniversary relay events in 22 nations on five continents support the cancer society's mission of eliminating cancer through research, education, and services such as colon cancer screening.

The cancer society hopes to raise \$45,000, said Jenesse Miller, media relations manager, who called the relay teams "a force to be reckoned with," and "a cohesive group with an invested relationship in each other and the fight against cancer."

The LGBT community faces higher cancer risk due to some



Cancer survivor Joe Cote with partner Bob Johnston

employee health insurance policies barring coverage for same-sex partners, self-employed people who can't afford health insurance, and some lesbians and transgenders who avoid routine care like mammograms and Pap tests that detect cancer early.

There is also a high incidence of tobacco use within the community.

As for Cote, he's planning his team and looking for more members. Holding off until after Sunday's AIDS Walk before securing pledges, the first LGBT Relay for Life organizing meeting led by Cote and Tom Ganger, his co-captain and longtime friend, takes place on Tuesday, July 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Eagle Tavern's community room. Cote has also planned a fundraising beer benefit at the Cinch on Polk Street on August 7.

Cote said he is promised donations from two leather clubs and from Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt's "Mama's Family."

Visit www.cancer.org or call 1-800-ACS-2345 to volunteer with team recruitment, logistics, publicity. Community members can also participate in the "Luminaria" ceremony during next month's relay when white paper bags weighted with sand and candle-lit from within, dedicated to current survivors or loved ones lost, line the track forming a memorial art installation, "to light our way through the darkness," said Cote. ▼



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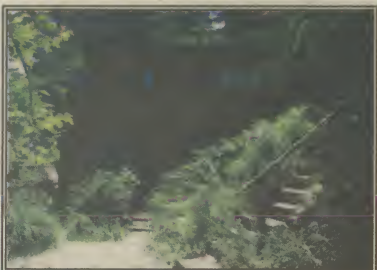


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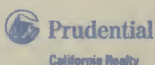
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OPEN FORUM

Marriage marches on

Assemblyman Mark Leno's (D-San Francisco) attempt to advance the same-sex marriage bill cleared its first hurdle Tuesday when the Senate Judiciary Committee approved the measure, now renamed AB849, that would make California marriage law gender neutral. As many readers know, Leno suffered a stinging defeat on the Assembly floor last month when AB19 failed to garner the needed 41 votes. After consulting with other members of the LGBT Legislative Caucus, Leno and the other gay lawmakers decided to try again, this time starting in the Senate. Using a procedure known as "gut and amend," the bill that had already passed in the Assembly had its language removed; the language from AB19 was inserted, and the new bill headed to the Senate for its first votes. Following the committee's vote Tuesday, the bill now moves to another Senate panel next month, and if it clears that committee the bill goes to the full Senate. If it passes there, AB849 would return for final ratification to the Assembly, where Leno is still about three votes shy of the number needed.

But there is time for Leno and other supporters to lobby legislators — lawmakers soon begin a monthlong recess before returning to the Capitol in mid-August to finish up legislative business. And after the heartbreaking vote in the Assembly last month, supporters of marriage equality have been reaching out to allies and increasing support. A sign of that growing support is the fact that state Senator Liz Figueroa (D-Fremont) recently added her name to the long list of some 30 co-sponsors. That's a large number for such a controversial bill, noted Lambda Letters Project director Boyce Hinman.

State Senator Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) is using her considerable political

clout to help pass the bill, and while she and Leno have had their differences, the entire LGBT caucus is united in this battle. "This is the civil rights issue of the decade," Migden said in a statement earlier this week. She also noted that "the tide is changing," and she may be right, although the bill still faces an uphill fight in the Assembly, not to mention the possibility of a veto from Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger should it make it to his desk.

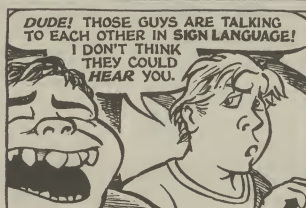
It is unfortunate that no GOP lawmakers have stepped up to support the measure, despite the presence of the Log Cabin Republicans in Sacramento and the fact that there are some moderate Republican lawmakers. Getting just one of them on board would

demonstrate more bipartisan support.

Tuesday's hearing produced the usual opponents: religious fundamentalists who are obsessed with denying us basic rights. According to a report in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, a married woman who identified herself as Susan Farrell testified before the committee, at one point shrieking, "I'm mommy! There's not two mommies to my children." Well, that's fine for you, Ms. Farrell, and we have absolutely nothing against your marriage. Why do you and others continue to vilify those of us who want what you presumably have — a loving family that is protected by the state and federal benefits that come with marriage?

There is no logical answer to that question. ▼

Editorial



Anglican turmoil over gays

by the Rt. Rev. William E. Swing

Something revolutionary is happening in the world of religion concerning the status of homosexual persons. A small number of Anglican provinces — Canada, the United States, and Scotland — have stepped out of line to include openly gay and lesbian people in ordination, blessing of couples, and adoption of children. These actions are not canonically precise at this moment, but the direction is clear and inexorable.

Thousands of years of religious experience by billions of believers have witnessed discrimination, persecution, and death against homosexual persons. Therefore, the stance of these three Anglican provinces initiates a predictable and fierce internal conflict with wide-ranging external consequences.

As someone who has spent the last 26 years ensconced in the turmoil, I would like to give a brief guide for understanding of the context.

Central issues

On the surface the battle was first enjoined in a Canadian diocese that created a policy for blessing same-sex couples. The fighting point centered on having a policy, thus making it official church practice.

Then when the Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire elected (by laity and clergy) a bishop who was in a long-term same-sex relationship, all the chips were on the table. When the American bishops, clergy, and laity, meeting in a General Convention, consented to the election, the Episcopal Church was committed to a revolution. Interestingly, the Scottish Episcopal Church has thrown in its lot with us. *Contra mundo*, us against the world.

Under the surface I think that two things are going on. First is the religious understanding of homosexual persons. The Roman Catholic Church's position is that homosexuals are "intrinsically disordered." That estimation is generous compared to the Muslim assessment of homosexuals.

On the other hand, we believe that homosexual persons are human beings just as

heterosexuals are human beings and should be treated equally in regard to dignity, responsibilities, moral expectations, civil rights, etc. St. Paul said that in Christ there is neither male nor female, slave nor free, Jew nor Greek. All are one. Today we are adding neither straight nor gay. We are one in our humanity.

Second is the issue of domestic validation. Is the church ready to validate motherhood and fatherhood for homosexual persons? What meets the eye is the proposed constitutional amendment about marriage or states voting in rites and rights. But underneath are the bitter assumptions. For instance, "gay people are promiscuous by nature and should be kept from family responsibilities" or "if children come to an age of awareness and discover that their parents are homosexual, it will devastate the children."

On the other hand, we have priests in the Episcopal Diocese of California who are in long-term, same-sex relationships and have adopted children. These couples change diapers, lose sleep, drive carpools, serve on PTAs, and strive to be good parents. Yes, it is a new vocation for homosexual clergy. Yes, it has not been tested over centuries. But yes, it is working. When people step up to domestic responsibilities, they deserve the domestic validation of the church. Not a curse from the church!

Central arenas

In June 2006 the General Convention of the Episcopal Church meets in Columbus, Ohio. Certainly a myriad of pro/con resolutions will clearly establish our direction.

The Lambeth conference, in the summer of 2008, is when all of the Anglican bishops of the world are invited by the Archbishop of Canterbury to gather together. But what if the archbishop doesn't invite the bishops of Canada, the United States, and Scotland? What if he invites only those few bishops from these countries who oppose all benefits to homosexual persons? What if African bishops boycott Lambeth because the Unit-

ed States bishops are invited? What if the Anglican Communion stops being a unity and scatters into Balkanized factions? The stakes are high, and time will tell.

The wild card

Although it seems as though the battle lines are distinctly drawn, there is one place that is mercurial, i.e., the Church of England. The church leaders there are doing everything possible to stay above the fray. But they have had two close calls that would have taken them from a place of neutrality and placed them squarely with Canada, the United States, and Scotland. In the first instance, one of their gay priests who had been in a long-term relationship was chosen as a bishop. But the Archbishop of Canterbury succeeded in talking the priest out of being consecrated. In the second instance, there were so many gay priests living in same-sex relationships that the church had to take a stand. It voted to allow such situations as long as the priests signed a paper stating that they would refrain from having sex. Their signed papers were to be submitted to the local bishop.

My predictions

The Episcopal Church of the United States of America will sustain more losses, will be in an endless round of legal battles, but will strongly hold together.

The Archbishop of Canterbury could never disenfranchise the Church of England and kick it out of the Anglican Communion. So when the Church of England admits to having homosexuals fully integrated in the church, the whole picture shifts.

African bishops? Some might ultimately leave the Communion and set themselves up as ultimate authority figures.

There is nothing light about the revolution that is happening concerning homosexual persons and the church. ▼

The Rt. Rev. William E. Swing is the Episcopal bishop of California.

LETTERS

LGBT center is a hub of activity

As a new tenant of the San Francisco LGBT Community Center, I felt that I needed to address the letter to the editor published June 30 from Brad Eggebrecht that described the center as "a vacuum," and "a failure."

Besides being the new home of my organization, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the center is also the home of the SF LGBT Pride Committee, Golden Gate Business Association, Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, California Tobacco Education Partnership, and the Youth Gender Project, to name just a few. Every office space is brimming with people dedicated to various LGBT causes.

In the "all lobby" area, the center has the Three Dollar Bill Café, which is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner and is a gathering spot. We operate the Community Box Office, which offers tickets to our concerts and will soon offer tickets to other LGBT arts groups. The information desk staff supplies materials to visitors and residents alike.

Yes, the center hosts 12-step programs as Mr. Eggebrecht states, but it also hosts support groups for people with HIV, City College classes, high school SAT prep classes, and other events. There are art exhibits, concerts, and community meetings held there every week. All one has to do is check the extensive calendar listing on the center's Web site (www.sfcenter.org).

Whenever a significant political victory is achieved for the LGBT community, the center is where celebrations are held. Our politicians hold their news conferences here to show their support (such as the city's condemnation of the recent 49ers PR disaster).

There is also a Teen Space for LGBT youth where they can feel safe and accepted, and a childcare center. A free computer lab – run entirely by volunteers – free job placement advice, job fairs, and other economic development programs also are part of the programming.

As for the center being closed on Pride Sunday, the center staff and volunteers had two information booths at the Pride festival site, where 98 percent of the people were. Also, since every staff member and organization housed in the center were working for 48 to 72 hours straight over the weekend, can you really blame them for wanting off the Monday after Pride?

What is so disturbing is the vitriolic nature of Mr. Eggebrecht's letter. It is always easier to tear down something than to offer constructive criticism or suggestions. I don't think the center deserved the nasty remarks hurled at it. At a time when the LGBT community is under attack by various sectors of our country, do we really need to start attacking one another?

Don Savoie, Executive Director
San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

Center is what you make it

I was surprised to see the letter bemoaning the LGBT Community Center until I reminded myself that I used to feel the same way. That is, until I started going into the center regularly and learned of all the services that the center does provide.

On July 8, my pet CPR/first aid instruction and dog grooming business, Four Wet Feet, opened in the Castro. Four Wet Feet is a small, gay-owned business providing services to many people (and their pets) in San Francisco. However, without the support of the neighborhood economic development organization – just one of the many programs offered by the center – the jobs, the services that we provide, and this business simply would not exist.

For eight months prior to opening, I met regularly with Ken Stram, director of economic development, who helped me finalize my business plan, develop my marketing plan, and launch my business, all free of charge. The center also paid for a loan packager who helped me acquire start-up funding from the Mayor's Office of Community Development.

I also attend my Golden Gate Business Association networking meeting at the center – a meeting that allows LGBT business owners to network and find support from other LGBT business owners.

Like any community-based space or activity, the center can only be what each person chooses to make of it. Based on my experience, the center is providing needed benefits and services to people in the community who would not otherwise receive these benefits. If the center doesn't already have a program that you're interested in, you can always rent a space at the center to host such an event, as Four Wet Feet has done for our pet first aid and CPR classes. I would strongly encourage any LGBT people who have not yet visited the center to drop in and find out what they can do for you and what they are doing for the community.

Robert Fullmer
San Francisco

Horrors: A muscle man on page 1

Front-page, above the fold – a prestigious place for any news article or photo in any newspaper and an editorial decision that certainly causes a bit of discourse and perhaps some editorial hand-wringing.

Imagine my shock and dismay when the B.A.R. had chosen, in light of its extensive coverage and editorializing on the racism in the Castro, to see the young, muscled, fair-skinned man as the poster-boy for the Pride celebration coverage [*"Full of Pride at the parade,"* June 30].

If the B.A.R. has chosen (which it has) to ferret out racism, misogyny, sexism, and hate in our community, then why did the editorial staff choose to perpetuate again images that diminish our community to a pathetic and inaccurate stereotype? Of the thousands of powerful, poignant, and political images from Pride that you could have printed, you chose for your most important and prestigious news item something sexually-titillating to your gay male readers and completely non-reflective of the diversity in race, gender, age, and body-type that made up Pride.

This form of selective editorializing is as racist, misogynistic, and sexist as anything Les Natali may have done. It is also more insidious and likely more hurtful to our community.

Casey J. Sondgeroth
San Francisco

A divisive 'campaign'

While I do not know much of the story of the Badlands issue, what a shame it is to witness the divisive and vindictive "campaign" to punish Les Natali. We are divided now.

At the same time, gays elsewhere in the world have much more to worry about than whether they were treated "rudely" by a doorman.

According to a Reuters story of July 8, a Sharia court has sentenced a man to death by stoning for admitting that he has had consensual sex with another adult man. Yes, death.

If Mr. Natali is guilty of a crime, let our judicial system handle his punishment. Meanwhile, let's fight the battles that really mean something.

Christopher McMahon
San Francisco

Mediation deck is stacked

And Castro For All has done an exceptional job of documenting acts of racism, building community support, and utilizing available civil processes. In fact, its efforts have been so successful that Mayor Newsom wants Willie Brown to mediate the dispute. For several reasons, I think this would be a serious setback for AC4A.

First, Badlands owner, Les Natali, had five separate opportunities to agree to mediation. Each time, he balked. As a result, AC4A moved forward on its grievances and now awaits the findings of the state Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. That Natali should want mediation now is extremely suspicious.

Second, I'm sorry but someone has to say it: Willie Brown is the wrong person to serve as mediator here. During Brown's administration, the term "cronyism" was used more often than at any other time in recent history. Why is cronyism relevant here? Two words: Jack Davis.

A few weeks ago, Jack Davis submitted a letter to the editor [*Mailstrom*, May 26] suggesting AC4A and its supporters were fools and should find a hobby. Since Davis has been a close friend and campaign manager to the ex-mayor, why would anyone think Brown is an appropriate neutral party?

Politics is about perceptions. Even if Brown's interests are well intended, his involvement appears a little too convenient. No wonder Natali is suddenly interested in mediation.

The Badlands complainants deserve better than political gamesmanship. Mediation with a truly neutral party sounds like a great idea. However, under these circumstances, the political deck appears to be stacked.

Esperanza Macias
Daly City, California

Milk and Alice get along

In the June 30 Barnstorming column Bill Barnes inaccurately described the motivations of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club. The Milk Club sponsored the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club's breakfast not because of the "wide cross-section of politicians," but because of the growing unity between the two clubs after many years of shortsighted divisiveness. In addition, Barnes failed to mention that the Milk Club had its most successful Pride day event in years, a post-parade party in collaboration with Pride at Work and SEIU Local 790's Lavender Caucus – and attended by both co-chairs of Alice. I hope Barnes will stop perpetuating the sense of a continual pissing match between the two clubs, when so many members of our community are trying to build our collective strength.

While the two clubs continue to be unique and often hold different viewpoints, both events were celebrations of our unity, although Barnes failed to attend either one.

Saskia Traill, Vice-President
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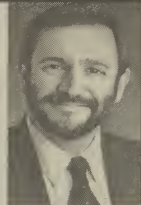
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You must remember this

by Paula Martinac

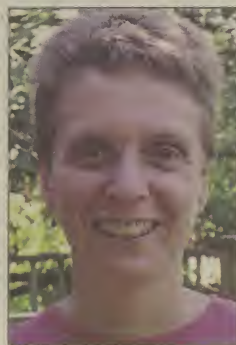
Many times since I began writing this column in 1997, I've had a distinct feeling of déjà vu as I sat down to type. That's not surprising, since social change moves at a snail's pace, and those of us who chronicle the LGBT movement often find ourselves writing about the same issues and ideas – including the fact that social change occurs slowly. But as I look back, I realize that LGBT people have indeed come an enormous distance since I started my career as an op-ed writer.

Sometimes, however, it's hard to remember that, and it seems like we've been going in circles. So in this, my final turn as author of this column, I'd like to offer my readers some historical perspective on our community's resilience and determination, and our commitment to the dream of equality.

My very first op-ed piece dealt with a hot-button issue of 1997 – marriage rights for gay couples – and I revisited the topic many times over the years. Not surprisingly, same-sex marriage is now an even hotter item on the LGBT plate, in part because we've waged a rigorous campaign for it for the sake of our families, but also because religious conservatives have turned the issue around for their own political gain.

Many among us who in 1997 figured we'd be legally marrying soon in Hawaii or Vermont got discouraged as marriage equality fell through time and again. Today there's just one state where same-sex couples can legally wed, and then only if they're residents. And frustratingly, many straight folks mistakenly think we can marry in more places than we can.

At the same time, consider how far our activism on behalf of our relationships has taken us in less than a decade. Domestic partnership, which was still a pretty radical notion in 1997, today seems old-fashioned as a response to same-sex couples' legal needs. Indeed, most countries of Europe have had



Columnist Paula Martinac

some form of domestic partner legislation in place for years.

Just five years ago, civil unions were the stuff of violent debate in Vermont, where the term originated. That year, my partner and I vacationed in northern New England and saw angry "Take back Vermont" bumper stickers on many a pickup truck. But this year, without any prompting by so-called activist judges, and with very little public to-do, the Connecticut Legislature passed civil union legislation.

What will five or eight additional years bring on the marriage-rights front? In Canada, just a couple of years ago, marriage rights were extended to gay couples in only a handful of provinces. Now, despite fierce opposition from the right, gay marriage will become the law of the land there by month's end. And amazingly, Catholic Spain has taken the same bold move toward equality.

I've also written a lot of copy over the years about straight people's changing attitudes toward LGBT people. Public opinion is an important component of any civil rights struggle – history shows that if attitudes don't change along with laws, social change may come to an impasse. Consider, for example, that deeply entrenched racism still keeps many African Americans as second-class citizens long after the passage of civil

rights legislation in the 1960s.

At this time of government-sanctioned animosity toward LGBT people, it's sometimes difficult to see that we've made any progress in the area of public opinion. But although religious conservatives are very vocal about their aversion to us – and our government participates in the anti-gay bashing – polls consistently tell us that Americans are becoming increasingly gay-tolerant. Indeed, studies show that young people who have grown up in the age of Pride marches, out family members, and TV shows like *Ellen* and *Will & Grace* are more gay-friendly than their parents and grandparents.

Some of us belittle the idea that TV and movies – which, whether gay- or straight-themed, are often divorced from anyone's reality – can effect social change. But interestingly, researchers at the University of Minnesota have come up with a theory they call "parasocial contact hypothesis," which posits that contact with positive gay TV characters and personalities can result in a decrease in prejudice – very much like positive contact with gay colleagues and neighbors does. These researchers demonstrated that exposure to the Fab Five of *Queer Eye* or to characters like David and Keith on *Six Feet Under* actually reduced antigay attitudes among college students.

What do these developments portend for us? Maybe in a decade a progressive lesbian op-ed writer will be discussing all the states that have written marriage equality into law – due, in part, to the fact that our community turned the tide of public opinion in our favor.

Okay, that's a dream. But Americans are famous for being dreamers, and LGBT people are among those who, to quote a recent *New York Times* magazine article, are doing "the hard work of reducing the gap between dream and reality." ▼

Paula Martinac is a playwright, novelist, and editor in chief of Q Syndicate. She can be reached care of this publication or at LesbianNotions@qsyndicate.com.

Lazy Bear

◀ page 1

gay and straight – appreciate the business it brings to town," he said. "Local business people have enjoyed the friendly and genial crowd patronizing their businesses compared to other groups and event weekends. They appreciate these people are having fun – and of course have an appetite for food and drink and patronizing their businesses." With the local chamber of commerce estimating the crowd this year from 7,000 to 9,000 people there's no doubt that Lazy Bear Weekend is the largest five-day income weekend for the town each year.

The local businesses aren't the only ones that benefit from Lazy Bear Weekend. Over the last 10 years the event has raised over half a million dollars for such charities as Under One Roof, AIDS Emergency Fund/Breast Cancer Emergency Fund, AEF-Sonoma County, Positive Resource Center, and the Ken Day Fund of Sacramento.

"Up until this year Positive Resource Center was the umbrella for the bookkeeping and check disbursements," Lit said, "and thanks



Hangin' out at Lazy Bear

to its volunteer legal team, the Lazy Bear Fund is now an official 501(c)3." The new nonprofit, called Castrobear Presents, will create new and exciting events like Lazy Bear Weekend: Palm Springs and Lazy Bear: Out to Sea to keep the Lazy Bear Fund going strong, Lit noted.

In 2001, the Sacramento Valley Bears played a more significant role in making Lazy Bear Weekend happen, becoming the driving volunteer force, along with some help from the Bears of San Francisco and individual volunteers. The Sacramento Valley Bears also

host its "Lazy Bear Meal Deal," founded by Gordon Tamplin, which feeds over 100 club members, further enhancing the community-building experience of Lazy Bear Weekend.

Highlights

Once again, the weekend will feature A-List entertainment, including Connie Champagne, Sharon McNight, and Tom Orr performing at "Under the Stars at Triple R." After the shows each night, the party moves to Club Fab for dance parties STINK, SWEAT, and London import: MegaWOOF. Other events include pool parties during the day at Fife's, The Triple-R, The Woods, and Highland Resorts.

Lazy Bear Weekend runs until Monday, July 18. Commemorative "Lazy Bear 2005 Tags" will be available for \$80 starting July 14 at the Lazy Bear headquarters. Tags will provide admission to many events over the weekend. For further details and a full schedule, please check the official Web site at www.LazyBearWeekend.com. Ludwig's photos of previous Lazy Bear Weekends can be found on his Website at www.Shut-terBear.com. ▼

POLITICS

College Not Combat

by Bill Barnes

Last week, I mentioned that the San Francisco Firefighters had submitted the Neighborhood Firehouse Protection Act that would set a minimum staffing level for firehouses and emergency medical services.

On Monday, the ballot deadline, a group of young activists backed by some incredible progressive leaders submitted one other initiative: College Not Combat. The measure, a declaration of policy, asks the school board and community college board to consider removing military recruiters from our educational facilities. In addition to the general arguments about the current illegal and immoral war, the organizers correctly point out the discrimination against out lesbian and gay people in the armed services.

The reason College Not Combat's measure is advisory only is because kicking recruiters out of schools would likely result in the loss of federal funds due to the No Child Left Behind Act. Yet, it is critically important that our openly gay elected officials on these bodies take the lead in assuring lesbian and gay students can attend public educational institutions free from the harassment of recruiters who marginalize our very existence.

LGBT supes unite to defeat USS Iowa

The day after student activists turned in their petitions, the Board of Supervisors resoundingly rejected a proposal by Supervisor **Fiona Ma** to bring the USS Iowa to the Port of San Francisco on a vote of 8-3. During the intensely personal discussion, Supervisor **Tom Ammiano** talked about teaching in Vietnam during the war, and about the military's current antigay policies and Supervisor **Chris Daly** talked about losing a grandfather in World War II. A few attempts to delay a decision were defeated on close votes, but in the end only the board's three more conservative members supported the proposal. Supervisor **Bevan Dufty** demonstrated his independence and support for LGBT members of our armed services in opposing the measure.

CARE Act reauthorization

There's likely to be a lot of conversation in the next week about restoring local AIDS funds, and here's hoping it all works out. The big money, though, is in Washington and the seas look rocky.

At the HIV Health Services Planning Council meeting, **Michael Petrelis** spent a good deal of time talking about his work with conservative Oklahoma Senator **Tom Coburn** to launch federal investigations into San Francisco's AIDS funding. In addition to the other issues we face, from names reporting of HIV cases to formula changes that would decimate our system of care, we've now got to contend with certain San Franciscans trying to cut services. It's one thing to call for accountability, and Petrelis's claims that the city purposefully exaggerated the number of people who have died of AIDS-related complications are certainly inflammatory and deserve impartial review. Yet instead of re-



Joshua Smith, left, and Kevin Salda sign petitions for College Not Combat at a May rally.

questing an internal review, asking the state's AIDS office, which tracks the data at the state level, or even asking the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's bureaucrats, Petrelis has gone to one of the Senate's most controversial and conservative members.

During last year's campaign, it was exposed that Coburn, as a private physician, probably committed Medicaid fraud when he sterilized a 20-year old woman without her written permission. In submitting the claim for reimbursement, Coburn purposefully omitted the sterilization procedure because the Medicaid program won't pay for sterilization of any woman under 21.

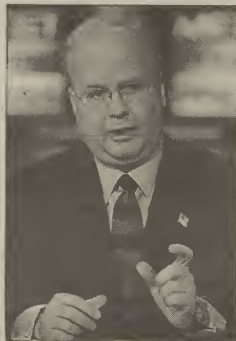
So, now we've got Petrelis going to a conservative senator who's called for the death penalty for abortion doctors, sterilized a young woman without her written consent, and couldn't get his forms right with Medicaid. I have a sneaking suspicion that he isn't looking out for our best interests. Let's figure out how we get accountability without persecution.

Karl Rove: Busted

There's a history of government officials speaking off the record, often in the interests of Americans. **Mark Felt**, the man who recently came forward as "Deep Throat," helped uncover Watergate and reform Washington as we know it. He probably would not have been able to do that without the protection and the privilege of **Bob Woodward** and the *Washington Post*.

It's finally been revealed that special White House adviser and general political hack **Karl Rove** used the same privilege of a free media to spill the beans about a covert CIA operative. While his lawyer denies that he intentionally violated the law, White House spokesman **Scott McClellan** has denied since the scandal broke that Rove was involved. Now, I know when you spend your time in the White House press room with escort/journalist **Jeff Gannon**, you're surprised by the tough questions. Yet McClellan denied this not just once – but many times, while an investigation was under way. Now, however, he's got nothing to say, because an investigation is under way.

All the while, a federal judge



Karl Rove is in the spotlight

has threatened journalists with contempt – and even jailed *New York Times* reporter **Judith Miller** – for protecting their sources. If this national disgrace had happened during the Clinton administration, you could be certain that the right wing would be all over it. Whether intentional or not, if Rove disclosed the name of a covert CIA operative during the ill-advised war on terror, he needs to go. **George W. Bush** said any person involved would be dismissed. Let's see if he keeps his word.

Cisneros kick-off

Saturday, July 16 is the official kick-off for Treasurer **Jose Cisneros**, at Delancey Street Town Hall at 600 Embarcadero, with sign-in at 10:30 a.m. Former Housing and Urban Development Secretary **Henry Cisneros** (no relation) and Mayor **Gavin Newsom** will be on hand. A new development this week: **Joel Ventresca**, the candidate who got 35 percent against **Susan Leal** in 1997, announced he's running again. Since that 1997 race, Ventresca ran a failed campaign for District 4 supervisor.

Young Democrats convention

The Young Democrats of America come to San Francisco for its national meeting August 3-7, and local Democrats can register to attend and hear from our country's leading new voices. Visit www.yda.org for more information. ▼

Bill Barnes is an elected member of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee. His e-mail is billbarnessf@hotmail.com.



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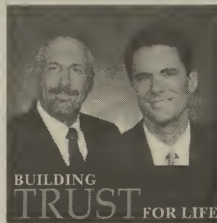
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Bare evidence

By Jane Warner

Beck's Motorlodge, 2222 Market, July 6, 8:45 a.m.: Two men were staying in a room at Beck's, when one of the men decided to get a cup of coffee. When he came back, he heard a loud thumping noise coming from inside the hotel room and his friend yelling for help. The man looked through the curtains of the window and saw his roommate face down on the bed with a strange man sitting on top of him with his shirt off, straddling him with his legs. "Help me," his friend yelled at him through the window. "Get this guy off of me. He's going to kill me."

Afraid for the safety of his friend, the man ran down to the motel's office and told the clerk to call 911. A few minutes later his friend walked into the office, his shirt torn and red marks were on his arms and face. "I'm leaving," the victim said. "That guy is crazy."

The man tried to convince his friend to stay and wait for the police but he refused and left, walking eastbound on Market Street. A short time later, officers arrived and the hotel clerk escorted them

to the room. When officers opened the door, they saw that the room was ransacked and the suspect was standing in the middle of the room naked. "I am the police!" the suspect screamed at the officers. "I am doing an investigation."

The suspect, who was sweating profusely, was quickly handcuffed without incident and transported to Mission Station. The suspect, 37, was booked for aggravated assault, trespassing, being under the influence of drugs in a public place, possession of a hypodermic syringe and violation of felony probation. Officers searched the area for the victim, but could not find him.

Auto-pirate

21st and Castro streets, July 3, 8:47 a.m.: After hearing a suspicious noise, a woman looked out her window and saw a man prying open the front passenger window of a parked Honda Accord. Calling 911, the woman watched as the man reached inside the window unlocked the car door and started to rummage through the contents of the vehicle. Hearing the radio call, a police cruiser quickly arrived on scene and found the suspect still inside the vehicle. At gun-

point, officers ordered the suspect out of the car and took him into custody without incident. "I noticed the car had a lot of tickets on it," the suspect explained. "It's the same model as my car and I needed the door handle because mine is broken." Officers ran a computer check on their detainee and found he had been arrested numerous times before for burglary and auto theft. The 40-year-old suspect was taken to Mission Station and booked for attempted auto burglary and possession of burglary tools.

Swiped

Escape from NY Pizza, 508 Castro, July 12, 9:35 p.m.: The delivery person double-parked his car leaving the engine running in front of the pizza parlor and rushed in to grab the next order of deliveries. When he came out of the restaurant with the round of pies about five minutes later, his car was gone. The employee looked up and down the street and asked others in the area if they had seen anyone take his car, but no one had. Police were called and searched the area but could not locate the stolen vehicle. If anyone has seen the missing pizza delivery car, described as an older dark green Toyota Camry with a license plate of CA 3BON038, they are asked to call SFPD at (415) 553-1261. ▼

LGBT leaders urge attendance at UFW rally

by Zak Szymanski

Many LGBT community members likely will be out in Dolores Park this weekend socializing and soaking up some rays. Local labor and gay organizers want parkgoers and activists to know that they can help build coalitions around the fight for marriage equality and other LGBT civil rights issues on Sunday July 17, without sacrificing fresh air or gorgeous views.

A march and rally in support of the United Farm Workers' boycott of Gallo wines will take place beginning at 11:30 a.m. and will feature openly gay elected officials such as Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), Supervisors Bevan Dufty and Tom Ammiano, city Treasurer Jose Cisneros, and Board of Education member Mark Sanchez, as well as representatives from the Harvey Milk and Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic clubs, Pride at Work, and Equality California.

UFW — a labor union with strong Latino community involvement — recently came out in favor of LGBT marriage equality.

"This is about one civil rights movement joining forces with another to affirm shared values of social justice," said Christine Chavez in a statement about UFW's support for gay marriage. Chavez is the granddaughter of the late Cesar Chavez and the current political director of UFW.

"Beginning in the 1970s, before there was widespread public acceptance of gays, especially among Latinos, my grandfather, Cesar Chavez, spoke out strongly for gay rights," said Chavez. "He

attended gay rights rallies and marches. He brought with him the UFW's black-eagle flags and farm workers who wished to participate. There are certain lessons a granddaughter learned from growing up around her grandfather: You can't champion equality for your own people when you tolerate discrimination against any people because of who they are."

In the spirit of coalition builders such as Chavez and the late Harvey Milk, who forged alliances between gay and labor communities, a solid LGBT presence at UFW events is encouraged, said LGBT supporters of this weekend's rally and march, both for political progress and for the sake of learning and standing up for workplace fairness.

"UFW has a lot of clout in the Latino community, and the fact that they're supporting marriage equality and will be pushing it over the next year strengthens our position dramatically," said local labor and LGBT activist Robert Haaland. "Going to the march and rally on Sunday is just one step of many that the LGBT community needs to make."

"The farm workers took a bold leap," said Howard Wallace of Pride at Work. "It's one thing to support LGBT rights in the abstract, but in view of our loss in 11 states in the last election it's something that makes people in politics pause, even if they're our allies, because they often wonder if their association can hurt them in some ways. UFW took the right course and the principled course and should be rewarded on those grounds alone. But they are also still among the most abused

workers in this country, which is something the LGBT community should care about."

According to UFW, about 220 temporary workers provide labor to Gallo wines of Sonoma, representing about 75 percent of Gallo's workforce but earning no benefits and enduring poor working conditions. Because the workers are employed through labor contractors and not directly hired through Gallo, the most recent contract, which expired in 2003 and has not been renegotiated, would not cover their benefits or allow for grievances, despite the fact that all workers pay the same union dues. Gallo spokespeople have proposed that some of the workers could be hired directly through Gallo to alleviate these concerns, but have also noted that many workers would not be eligible because they do not hold green cards. Additionally, last April, 29 Gallo workers were discovered living in unfit conditions in a small house in Windsor by local authorities who raided the premises. Gallo wines denied having any involvement with the housing situation.

Sunday's rally is important for the advancement of LGBT rights, said Molly McKay, field director for EQCA.

"I think that it's very important for our community to be seen as a coalition ally to the larger progressive agenda to secure equality and justice for everyone in California," said McKay. "We've had tremendous and unprecedented support from many coalition allies and we want to make sure we're doing the same in terms of lending our support to fight other instances of injustice." ▼

AIDS Walk expects large turnout Sunday

by Zak Szymanski

One of the most community-oriented and accessible HIV/AIDS fundraisers takes place this Sunday, July 17, when the annual AIDS Walk kicks off in Golden Gate Park's Sharon Meadow featuring celebrity speakers, entertainment, and an expected 25,000 participants coming together to bring in much-needed money for Bay Area AIDS service organizations.

An estimated \$4.9 million will be raised this year by both AIDS Walk and the AIDS Marathon, according to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, which organizes both events. SFAF pays a \$155,000 production fee to MZA Events, the same amount as last year.

A projected \$447,500 will be returned to community beneficiaries who have partnered with the event, representing an increase of \$25,500 going toward HIV prevention, services, and advocacy. The grants are distributed through San Francisco's Horizons Foundation.

Separately, AIDS Walk has also announced a new pilot program geared toward raising more money for small and medium-sized organizations who enlist new walkers. Under the program, 100 percent of the funds raised by new members of an organization's walking team will be returned di-



SFAF director Mark Cloutier

rectly to that organization. Seventeen teams are taking part in this pilot program, which will bring in even more money for those organizations.

The agencies taking part in the pilot program are: Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center, HIV Education and Prevention Project of Alameda County, Dolores Street Community Services, AIDS Emergency Fund, Bay Area Young Positives, Project Open Hand, SF Gay Men's Community Initiative, AIDS Legal Referral Panel, Stop AIDS Project, Immune Enhancement Project, Women Organized to Respond to Life-threatening Diseases, Diablo Valley AIDS Center, AIDS Project East Bay, Project

Inform, Shanti, and the Black Coalition on AIDS.

"We are very pleased to be able to provide other HIV/AIDS organizations with the opportunity to raise additional funds to support critical HIV services and programs in our community," said Mark Cloutier, SFAF's executive director. "It's the AIDS foundation's hope that the community partnership program will help HIV/AIDS organizations raise more funds to do their work and encourage even more people to participate in this growing and vibrant community event."

There is no registration fee and no minimum requirement to participate in AIDS Walk. Those interested in walking can register on the day of the event.

"They can basically show up in the park on the day of the event, register or do a self-pledge, and walk in the park," said Redge Norton, spokesman for SFAF. "There are collection stations in the meadow for any amount. No donation is too small and everyone is welcome for this event."

The day begins with walker check-in at 8:30 a.m.; walkers can register as individuals or as part of a new or already-existing team through their workplace, group of friends, house of worship, or other affiliations.

The opening ceremony begins at 9:15 a.m. and features actress

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DADT heads to federal court

by Lisa Keen

Only two lawsuits have been filed specifically to challenge the government's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy of gays in the military since the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June 2003 that the U.S. Constitution protects the right of same-sex adults to engage in consensual sex. The one with the best chance of succeeding — *Cook v. Rumsfeld* — had its first day in court Friday, July 8 in Boston.

Before Federal District Court Judge George O'Toole, attorneys for Thomas Cook and 11 other gays who have been discharged under the DADT policy argued against a government motion to dismiss the lawsuit.

The government's attorney, Mark T. Quinlivan, told O'Toole the case should be dismissed because so many other federal courts have upheld the policy and because "nothing has changed" since those rulings.

But attorney Stuart F. Delery, representing the 12 service members, said those previous court rulings were issued before the "sea change" that occurred when the U.S. Supreme Court issued its opinion in *Lawrence v. Texas*. In that case, the Supreme Court ruled that adults have a constitutionally protected right to engage in consensual sex with a same-sex partner.

All of the previous federal court rulings, noted Delery, were based on the Supreme Court's 1986 ruling in *Bowers v. Hardwick*. In *Lawrence*, the Supreme Court struck down *Hardwick* "because of the negative effects it was propagating," he said. While *Hardwick* upheld laws prohibiting same-sex sodomy, its existence in criminalizing gay sex was used to identify gay people as criminals, regardless of the context or whether they had ever engaged in sex with a same-sex partner.

Of the 12 plaintiffs in *Cook v. Rumsfeld*, eight were discharged solely for making statements that they were gay, two were discharged for being in same-sex relationships, and two were discharged based only on reports that they had engaged in sex with a same-sex partner.

C. Dixon Osburn, executive director of the Legal Servicemem-



Plaintiff Megan Dresch

bers Defense Network, which organized the lawsuit, said the field of plaintiffs was chosen to cover all applications of DADT.

The only other lawsuit to challenge the policy specifically is *Log Cabin Republicans v. U.S.*, in which the national gay Republican group argues against the policy on behalf of unidentified plaintiffs. That case was filed in a federal district court in Los Angeles and Log Cabin attorney Marty Meekins said he expects a ruling "any day" on the government's motion to dismiss. A third lawsuit, filed in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, argues against the DADT policy in the context of its plaintiff's request for benefits denied to him after he was discharged just days before he was to retire.

In the Boston case last week, Delery urged O'Toole to let the lawsuit proceed, noting that the 1st Circuit Federal Court, in which the Boston federal court is located, has never ruled on the DADT policy and that no federal court has ruled on it since the Supreme Court ruling in *Lawrence*. He also argued "there is no credible connection" between the government's asserted need for the DADT policy except that it is motivated by "hostility toward this particular group." Delery noted that the Supreme Court ruled in *Romer v. Evans* that the Constitution forbids governments from basing laws on animus against a specific group.

O'Toole noted, however, that *Romer* was based on a state law, prohibiting states and localities from passing initiatives to omit gay citizens from protections

available to other citizens.

"Is there any indication that the court would have the same willingness to explore animus ... held by [Congress]?" asked O'Toole. The government's attorney, Quinlivan, had argued strenuously that the court should show great deference to Congress for having studied and approved the DADT policy.

Delery said he does not believe the *Romer* ruling was limited to local and state governments and that, even in cases involving the military, the standard tests for constitutional claims is required. But O'Toole replied that the issue is whether the courts, including the Supreme Court, might be willing to do so in the way of "accusing a coordinate branch of animus."

"That seems to be a step that might be more easily taken with respect to some municipality than with respect to the legislative branch of the federal government," said O'Toole.

But, ironically, in explaining a need for DADT, Quinlivan reiterated the Congress' concern for protecting "unit cohesion," in a way that implied the existence of animus.

"When service members are in battle," said Quinlivan, "they do not fight necessarily because of the love for country. They fight because, after the cohesion of the unit has been built, they are standing there for the man or woman next to them and fighting for that person..."

The SLDN lawsuit also suggests there may be some animus toward women in the military, noting that, even though women comprise only about 14 percent of the military, they make up 30 percent of those discharged under DADT.

The 12 plaintiffs include five members from the Army, four from the Navy, two from the Air Force, and one from the Coast Guard. The suit argues that the DADT policy is unconstitutional because it infringes on the gay service members' right to privacy, equal protection, and freedom of speech.

The lawsuit estimates that about 65,000 active duty service members are gay and that the DADT policy has been responsible for the discharges of 10,000 since it was enacted in 1993. ▼

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INDICATION: Reyataz (atazanavir sulfate) is a prescription medicine used in combination with other medicines to treat people who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Reyataz has been studied in 48-week trials in both patients who have taken or have never taken anti-HIV medicines.

Reyataz does not cure HIV or help prevent passing HIV to others.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

Do not take Reyataz if you are taking the following medicines: ergot medicines, Versed®, Halcion®, Orap®, Propulsid®, Camptosar®, Crixivan®, Mevacor®, Zocor®, rifampin, St. John's wort, AcipHex®, Nexium®, Prevacid®, Prilosec® or Protonix®. Do not use Viagra®, Levitra®, Cialis®, or Vfend® while you are taking Reyataz without first speaking with your healthcare provider. **This list of medicines is not complete. Discuss all prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamin and herbal supplements, or other health preparations you are taking or plan to take with your healthcare provider.**

Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any side effects or conditions, including the following:

- **A change in the way your heart beats** may occur and could be a symptom of a heart problem.
- **Diabetes and high blood sugar** may occur in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines like Reyataz.
- **Yellowing of the skin and/or eyes** may occur due to increases in bilirubin levels in the blood (bilirubin is made by the liver).
- **Rash** (redness and itching) sometimes occurs in patients taking Reyataz, most often in the first few weeks after the medicine is started, and usually goes away within two weeks with no change in treatment.
- **If you have liver disease**, including hepatitis B or C, your liver disease may get worse when you take anti-HIV medicines like Reyataz.
- **Some patients with hemophilia** have increased bleeding problems with protease inhibitor medicines like Reyataz.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking anti-HIV medicines. The cause and long-term effects are not known at this time.

Common side effects of Reyataz taken with other anti-HIV medicines include: nausea, headache, stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea, depression, fever, dizziness, trouble sleeping, numbness, and tingling or burning of hands or feet.

You should take Reyataz once daily with food (a meal or snack). You should take Reyataz and your other anti-HIV medicines exactly as instructed by your healthcare provider.

Please see important information about REYATAZ on the next page.

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*Undetectable is defined as a viral load of less than 400 or 50 copies/mL (depending on the test used).

†REYATAZ in combination therapy had a 1-3% rate of moderate-to-severe diarrhea.

‡People who have taken anti-HIV medicines before usually take REYATAZ with ritonavir once daily as part of their HIV combination therapy.

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PATIENT INFORMATION

REYATAZ® (RAY-ah-taz)

(generic name = atazanavir sulfate) Capsules

ONLY

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with REYATAZ.

Read the section "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?"

Read the Patient Information that comes with REYATAZ before you start using it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This leaflet provides a summary about REYATAZ and does not include everything there is to know about your medicine. This information does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

What is REYATAZ (atazanavir sulfate)?

REYATAZ is a prescription medicine used with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). HIV is the virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). REYATAZ is a type of anti-HIV medicine called a protease inhibitor. HIV infection destroys CD4+ (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. The immune system helps fight infection. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, AIDS develops. REYATAZ helps to block HIV protease, an enzyme that is needed for the HIV virus to multiply. REYATAZ may lower the amount of HIV in your blood, help your body keep its supply of CD4+ (T) cells, and reduce the risk of death and illness associated with HIV.

Does REYATAZ cure HIV or AIDS?

REYATAZ does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. At present there is no cure for HIV infection. People taking REYATAZ may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Opportunistic infections are infections that develop because the immune system is weak. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections. It is very important that you see your healthcare provider regularly while taking REYATAZ.

REYATAZ does not lower your chance of passing HIV to other people through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood. For your health and the health of others, it is important to always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom or other barrier to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood. Never use or share dirty needles.

Who should not take REYATAZ?

Do not take REYATAZ if you:

- are taking certain medicines. (See "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?") Serious life-threatening side effects or death may happen. Before you take REYATAZ, tell your healthcare provider about all medicines you are taking or planning to take. These include other prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.
- are allergic to REYATAZ or to any of its ingredients. The active ingredient is atazanavir sulfate. See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in REYATAZ. Tell your healthcare provider if you think you have had an allergic reaction to any of these ingredients.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before I take REYATAZ?

Tell your healthcare provider:

- If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. It is not known if REYATAZ can harm your unborn baby. Pregnant women have experienced serious side effects when taking REYATAZ with other HIV medicines called nucleoside analogues. You and your healthcare provider will need to decide if REYATAZ is right for you. If you use REYATAZ while you are pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider about the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry.
- If you are breast-feeding. You should not breast-feed if you are HIV-positive because of the chance of passing HIV to your baby. Also, it is not known if REYATAZ can pass into your breast milk and if it can harm your baby. If you are a woman who is or will have a baby, talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.
- If you have liver problems or are infected with the hepatitis B or C virus. See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- If you have diabetes. See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- If you have hemophilia. See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- About all the medicines you take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Keep a list of your medicines with you to show your healthcare provider. For more information, see "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?" and "Who should not take REYATAZ?" Some medicines can cause serious side effects if taken with REYATAZ.

How should I take REYATAZ?

- Take REYATAZ once every day exactly as instructed by your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider will prescribe the amount of REYATAZ that is right for you.
- For adults who have never taken anti-HIV medicines before, the usual dose is 400 mg (two 200-mg capsules) once daily taken with food.
- For adults who have taken anti-HIV medicines in the past, the usual dose is 300 mg (two 150-mg capsules) plus 100 mg of NORVIR® (ritonavir) once daily taken with food. Your dose will depend on your liver function and on the other anti-HIV medicines that you are taking. REYATAZ is always used with other anti-HIV medicines. If you are taking REYATAZ with SUSTIVA® (efavirenz) or with VIREAD® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate), you should also be taking NORVIR® (ritonavir).
- Always take REYATAZ with food (a meal or snack) to help it work better. Swallow the capsules whole. Do not open the capsules. Take REYATAZ at the same time each day.
- If you are taking antacids or VIDEX® (didanosine) Chewable/Dispersible Buffered Tablets, take REYATAZ 2 hours before or 1 hour after these medicines.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking REYATAZ without first talking with your healthcare provider. It is important to stay under a healthcare provider's care while taking REYATAZ.
- When your supply of REYATAZ starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy. It is important not to run out of REYATAZ. The amount of HIV in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time.
- If you miss a dose of REYATAZ, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If, however, it is within 6 hours of your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose. It is important that you do not miss any doses of REYATAZ or your other anti-HIV medicines.
- If you take more than the prescribed dose of REYATAZ, call your healthcare provider or poison control center right away.

Can children take REYATAZ?

REYATAZ has not been fully studied in children under 16 years of age. REYATAZ should not be used in babies under the age of 3 months.

What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?

The following list of side effects is not complete. Report any new or continuing symptoms to your healthcare provider. If you have questions about side effects, ask your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider may be able to help you manage these side effects.

The following side effects have been reported with REYATAZ:

- rash (redness and itching) sometimes occurs in patients taking REYATAZ, most often in the first few weeks after the medicine is started. Rashes usually go away within 2 weeks with no change in treatment. Tell your healthcare provider if rash occurs.
- yellowing of the skin or eyes. These effects may be due to increases in bilirubin levels in the blood (bilirubin is made by the liver). Call your healthcare provider if your skin or the white part of your eyes turn yellow. Although these effects may not be damaging to your liver, skin, or eyes, it is important to tell your healthcare provider promptly if they occur.
- a change in the way your heart beats (heart rhythm change). Call your healthcare provider right away if you get dizzy or lightheaded. These could be symptoms of a heart problem.
- diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) sometimes happen in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ. Some patients had diabetes before taking protease inhibitors while others did not. Some patients may need changes in their diabetes medicine.
- if you have liver disease including hepatitis B or C, your liver disease may get worse when you take anti-HIV medicines like REYATAZ.
- some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding problems with protease inhibitors like REYATAZ.

- changes in body fat. These changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Other common side effects of REYATAZ taken with other anti-HIV medicines include nausea; headache; stomach pain; vomiting; diarrhea; depression; fever; dizziness; trouble sleeping; numbness, tingling, or burning of hands or feet; and muscle pain.

What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?

Do not take REYATAZ if you take the following medicines (not all brands may be listed; tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take). REYATAZ may cause serious, life-threatening side effects or death when used with these medicines.

- Ergot medicines: dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, and methylethergonovine such as CAFERGOT®, MIGRANAL®, D.H.E. 45®, ergotrate maleate, METHERGINE®, and others (used for migraine headaches).
- HALCION® (triazolam, used for insomnia).
- VERSED® (midazolam, used for sedation).
- ORAP® (pimozide, used for Tourette's disorder).
- PROPULSID® (cisapride, used for certain stomach problems).
- Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ (atazanavir sulfate) because of possible serious side effects:
- CAMPTOSAR® (irinotecan, used for cancer).
- CRIVAN® (indinavir, used for HIV infection). Both REYATAZ and CRIVAN sometimes cause increased levels of bilirubin in the blood.
- Cholesterol-lowering medicines MEVACOR® (lovastatin) or ZOCOR® (simvastatin).

Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ because they may lower the amount of REYATAZ in your blood. This may lead to an increased HIV viral load. Resistance to REYATAZ or cross-resistance to other HIV medicines may develop:

- Rifampin (also known as RIMACTANE®, RIFADIN®, RIFATER®, or RIFAMATE®, used for tuberculosis).
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort.
- "Proton-pump inhibitors" used for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as AcipHex® (rabeprazole), NEXIUM® (esomeprazole), PREVACID® (lansoprazole), PRLOSEC® (omeprazole), or PROTONIX® (pantoprazole).

Do not take the following medicine if you are taking REYATAZ and NORVIR® together.

- VFEND® (voriconazole).

The following medicines may require your healthcare provider to monitor your therapy more closely:

- CIALIS® (tadalafil), LEVITRA® (vardenafil), or VIAGRA® (sildenafil). REYATAZ may increase the chances of serious side effects that can happen with CIALIS, LEVITRA, or VIAGRA. Do not use CIALIS, LEVITRA, or VIAGRA while you are taking REYATAZ unless your healthcare provider tells you it is okay.
- LIPITOR® (atorvastatin). There is an increased chance of serious side effects if you take REYATAZ with this cholesterol-lowering medicine.
- Medicines for abnormal heart rhythm: CORDARONE® (amiodarone), lidocaine, quinidine (also known as CARDIOQUIN®, QUINIDEX®, and others).
- VASCO® (bepridil, used for chest pain).
- COUMADIN® (warfarin).
- Tricyclic antidepressants such as ELAVIL® (amitriptyline), NORPRAMIN® (desipramine), SINEQUAN® (doxepin), SURMONTIL® (nirapramine), TOFRANIL® (imipramine), or VIVACTIL® (protriptyline).
- Medicines to prevent organ transplant rejection: SANDIMMUNE® or NEORAL® (cyclosporine), RAPAMUNE® (sirolimus), or PROGRAF® (tacrolimus).

The following medicines may require a change in the dose or dose schedule of either REYATAZ or the other medicine:

- FORTOVASE®, INVRASE® (saquinavir).
- NORVIR® (ritonavir).
- SUSTIVA® (efavirenz).
- VIDEX® (didanosine) or antacids.
- VIREAD® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate).
- MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin).
- Calcium channel blockers such as CARDIZEM® or TIAZAC® (diltiazem), COVERA-HS® or ISOPTIN SR® (verapamil) and others.
- BIAXIN® (clarithromycin).
- Medicines for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as AXID® (nizatidine), PEPCID AC® (famotidine), TAGAMET® (cimetidine), or ZANTAC® (ranitidine).

Women who use birth control pills or "the patch" should choose a different kind of contraception. REYATAZ may affect the safety and effectiveness of birth control pills or the patch. Talk to your healthcare provider about choosing an effective contraceptive.

Remember:

1. Know all the medicines you take.
2. Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take.
3. Do not start a new medicine without talking to your healthcare provider.

How should I store REYATAZ?

- Store REYATAZ (atazanavir sulfate) Capsules at room temperature, 59° to 86° F (15° to 30° C). Do not store this medicine in a damp place such as a bathroom medicine cabinet or near the kitchen sink.
- Keep your medicine in a tightly closed container.
- Throw away REYATAZ when it is outdated or no longer needed by flushing it down the toilet or pouring it down the sink.

General Information about REYATAZ

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use REYATAZ for another condition. Do not give REYATAZ to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them. Keep REYATAZ and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.

This summary does not include everything there is to know about REYATAZ. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Remember, no written summary can replace careful discussion with your healthcare provider. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider or you can call 1-800-426-7644.

What are the ingredients in REYATAZ?

Active Ingredient: atazanavir sulfate

Inactive Ingredients: Crospovidone, lactose monohydrate (milk sugar), magnesium stearate, gelatin, FD&C Blue #2, and titanium dioxide.

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Revised October 2004

More changes, progress for LGBT senior housing

by Zak Szymanski

A year after Linda Carlson took over as executive director of Openhouse, the organization aimed at creating housing and services for LGBT seniors has recently elected new board officers, met a \$25,000 challenge grant, acquired a developer, and is in negotiations for a piece of property in the Octavia corridor near San Francisco's Civic Center. Additionally, a collaboration between Openhouse, the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, New Leaf: Services for Our Community, and the National Center for Lesbian Rights has since last summer been providing LGBT sensitivity trainings to local senior service providers and is poised to receive additional funding to continue that project as part of its overall mission of education and outreach.

Marty Low, the CFO and chief strategist for Planned Parenthood Golden Gate, was elected president of the board of Openhouse last week. Low replaces Marcy Adelman, Ph.D., who was president of the board since the beginning of the project and is credited with leading the effort to implement the vision of creating affordable and supportive housing and services for this often-overlooked segment of the LGBT



Openhouse's Linda Carlson

community. Other officers on the board include Nancy Brundy, vice president; Hadley Dale Hall, secretary; and Bill Denebeim, treasurer. The board's new leadership, said Adelman, represents her confidence in the organization, which has made tremendous strides since its early days as a concept she helped to develop along with her late partner, Jeanette Gurevitch, who died suddenly two years ago.

"I have finally been able to feel that Openhouse is solid and has the kind of board that can go from a start-up board to a governance board," Adelman told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "While I have stepped down as board president, of

course I will stay on to help with fundraising and anything else I can do."

"Marcy's been at the helm for a very long time. This is a healthy and positive thing for her, and she certainly will remain active," said Carlson. "It's generally a good thing for someone who has pioneered an effort to step back and let it go to the next stage."

Carlson added that she intends to stay on as executive director, and like Adelman, won't rest at least until the housing is completed.

"Between myself and the new board our task is to create this as a viable nonprofit that actually builds this thing," said Carlson. "That's really the focus now and I think it's probably going to happen within the next couple of years."

Adelman said her stepping down will allow her to "get back to my own life" and that "this is a very happy time for me."

"When you start something from the beginning and you feel as passionately about the project as I have, and had such a great founding board where everybody worked together to make all these things happen, it's an incredibly rewarding experience. But it's also very time consuming, even if it's a labor of love," said Adelman. "I always felt that once we had the right board in place and the right

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William Owen, Jr., M.D.
Carl Stein, PA-C

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Bisexual study

◀ page 1

that, "our results suggest that male bisexuality is not simply the sum of, or the intermediate between, heterosexual and homosexual orientation. Indeed, with respect to sexual arousal and attraction, it remains to be shown that male bisexuality exists."

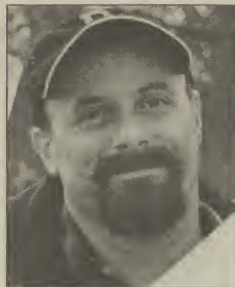
"I'm not denying that bisexual behavior exists," the study's senior author, J. Michael Bailey, Ph.D., told the *Times*, "but I am saying that in men there's no hint that true bisexual arousal exists, and that for men arousal is orientation."

In contrast, a previous study by the same research team found that most women who identified as bisexual—as well as many who identified as heterosexual or lesbian—demonstrated genital arousal in response to images of both women and men.

The study received criticism from psychologists and bisexual activists alike, both for drawing conclusions based on questionable methodology and a small sample of subjects, and for reducing sexual orientation to genital arousal in response to pornography.

"The last thing you want is for some therapists to see this study and start telling bisexual people that they're wrong, that they're really on their way to homosexuality," Dr. Randall Sell, an assistant professor at Columbia University, told the *Times*.

"Sexual orientation is complex, and to accept genital arousal in response to viewing same-sex and mixed-sex erotic videos as the sole measure of sexual orientation is naive and overly simplistic," Robyn Ochs, a longtime bisexual



Author Ron Suresha

activist and editor of the new anthology *Getting Bi*, wrote in a letter to the *Times*. "I speak from experience when I attest that there are more sexual orientations than gay and straight."

"Social and emotional attraction are very important elements in bisexual attraction," added Dr. Fritz Klein, a bisexual sex researcher who authored *The Bisexual Option* and developed the Klein Sexual Orientation Grid (an alternative to the Kinsey Scale).

LGBT advocates also blasted Bailey—a psychologist at Northwestern and Rieger's graduate adviser—who recently came under fire for his 2003 book, *The Man Who Would Be Queen: The Science of Gender-Bending and Transsexualism*, which claimed that transsexual men are either very effeminate gay men or fetishists who are sexually aroused by the image of themselves as women.

The book was nominated for a Lambda Literary Award in 2004, but the nomination was withdrawn after an outcry from the transgender community. Bailey has also been criticized for unethical research practices—including having sex with a subject and writing about subjects without their consent—and for suggesting that selective abortion of gay fetuses would not be morally objectionable.

On July 7, the Gay and Lesbian

Alliance Against Defamation denounced the *Times* story, especially the editors' choice of a headline. "This sensationalistic, derogatory headline impugns the honesty and integrity of bisexual people everywhere, accusing them of lying and deceiving others about their sexual orientation," read a statement from the group. GLAAD asked the *Times* to change the headline of the online version of the story, but the paper declined.

Fairness in Accuracy in Reporting, a non-LGBT-specific media advocacy group, also criticized the story on July 8. "In leaping to dramatic conclusions from a single study with a small population, Carey echoes the study's authors, who seem equally eager to generalize from scant evidence," said FAIR. The study results "could just as easily be read as evidence that arousal in bisexual men does not equal orientation—that simple measurement of arousal does not predict people's behavior or identity."

"We remain stunned that the *New York Times* science section would carry such a shoddy, sensationalistic, and downright insulting story," added National Gay and Lesbian Task Force director Matt Foreman in a June 11 statement. "It—and the profoundly flawed 'study' it purports to cover—are laced with biased premises, misstatements, and inaccuracies. It defames the truth in the lives and loves of millions of bisexual men."

"Today, almost as much as during Stonewall, gay men and lesbians and straight people still often refuse to accept the reality of bisexuality," author Ron Suresha, co-editor of the forthcoming anthology *Bi Men: Coming Out Every Which Way*, told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The authentic, real stories of bi men themselves challenge the denial and lies concocted by discredited psychologists like Michael Bailey, and perpetuated by straight mainstream media such as the *New York Times*." ▼

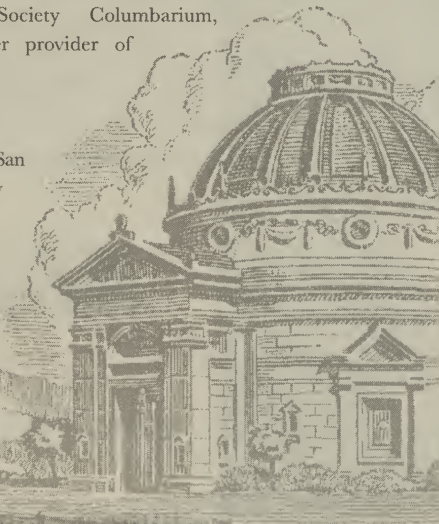
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End Up

◀ page 3

sonal bank account, and Carl sued to win full ownership rights. Whitmore reportedly vanished along with \$160,000. A penniless, disgruntled Whitmore then returned in 1996 and attacked Carl at his Kentfield home. As the two men fought for control of Whitmore's gun, it went off and shot Carl in the arm. After being cornered by police, Whitmore killed himself.

Finally, Carl had gained control of the family business, and ever since, has worked to maintain his brother Al's creative vision. His and the club's troubles, however, were nowhere near over.

As far back as 1998 Hanken worried about the club's ability to withstand the gentrification of SOMA and, with the influx of new residents, growing complaints about the area's nightlife. Things took a turn for the worse in 1999 when an upset patron shot two people inside the club during its now-defunct Club Dread reggae party.

That same year the club closed for nearly two months and the police threatened to shut it down for good due to drug-related problems. The club not only survived the law enforcement scrutiny but also held on as new loft projects were built and developers eyed its prime location.

In deciding to sell, Hanken wanted to ensure the new owners would carry on the tradition he and his brothers started. While he is giving up the business, he and his wife will still control the prop-

erty at 401 Sixth Street at Harrison, and they reportedly plan to charge the new owners \$12,000 a month in rent.

Leaving behind the club life "is a big void for me, that's for sure," said Hanken. "I've gone through sad parts before. This will be one of the least sad parts. I can adjust to that. It will be an enormous boost for the club itself. They have an experienced group coming in."

Hanken said he decided to sell the club to Leung and his partners because of their past experience working in nighttime venues and their connections to the gay community.

"One of the partners has been in the club business for 27 years, going back to Studio 54," he said. "The gay identity is a definite improvement. There will be much more emphasis on the gay scene again."

Though he said he cautioned the new owners to also maintain the club's diverse appeal. While its Fag Friday parties attract mainly gay men, its Sunday morning crowd is decidedly straight.

"We need to stay diverse. It is not the 1970s anymore. My brother had it open 24/7 literally," he said. "Today it is a much more sophisticated market and a different economy. Sydney, he will hit the pavement running. He is an unusually qualified participant in this too."

As for Hanken, who is near 70, he said he will be actively involved in the transition to the new owners. Then, he said, "I don't know. I will probably rest up for a day and then start something else. I will be involved indirectly." ▼

OBITUARIES

Kevin Foxby
(Aulis Latostenmaa)
1946 — 2005

A 22-year resident of Alpine St. in the Castro, sweet Kevin suddenly died in Colorado last month while on tour. Compounding sadness, Kevin had flown back to Helsinki in April for his mother's unexpected funeral, settling her estate. Emotions take their toll, and a bug caught in Vietnam in May let Denver's thin air stop Kevin's heartbeat. But he was doing what he loved best: travel.

Kevin grew up in Hyvinkää, Finland, touring the US in 1967, moving to New York in 1974. He worked at the UN for years, and later translation services, airlines, and tourist agencies. In 1983

Kevin moved to SF, caring for his partner Shelly, who passed away in 1986. Kevin then devoted himself to his passions: traveling, photography, art, computers, and writing. Kevin published both photography and Scandinavian-US relations articles.

I still can't believe he's gone: Kevin was a great friend to me for the past 44 years, in itself a singular life experience for us both. He is missed by friends in the US and Europe: Timo, Merle, Chad, Hamm, his brother and family in Finland, and many others.

A Friends' Remembrance gathering is planned for Sunday, July 24. Contact Merle at mmdevault@yahoo.com

George Johnson

Long-time San Franciscan George Johnson passed away on July 3, 2005 in Sun City, Arizona. A Bay Area actor, director and theatre lover, George was born in Michigan but spent most of his adult life in San Francisco. His long as-

sociation with Getz Travel took George all over the world. He combined his two vocations when he directed the show "Nonsense" in El Cerrito and "took it on the road" to Budapest in 1993.

He directed throughout the Bay Area but found his theatrical home at Masquers Playhouse in Pt. Richmond. His friends will honor him with a celebration of his life on Saturday, July 16, 2005 at 11 a.m. at Masquers Playhouse, 105 Park Place, Pt. Richmond, CA 94801. Donations in his name may be made to Masquers Playhouse at the above address, with the intent of underwriting one of next season's musicals in his memory.

Gregory John Newell

June 28, 1964 — July 3, 2005

Gregory passed away July 3 after a long battle with AIDS. He was a glowing presence and an inspiration to many. Gregory was born in Macomb, IL and moved to California in 1986. He was an



his lifelong dream of becoming a gallery artist.

Gregory is preceded in death by his parents Robert and Denise, and his dog Morgan. He is survived by his devoted partner Alan Scopp, brothers Pete, Mike and Dan, sister Amy, sisters-in-law Karen and Janel, as well as niece Ella and nephews Robby, Andy, Malcolm, Gregory, William and Russell. Gregory also leaves behind Robert, Matt, Michael, Jim and Sam as well as a multitude of other friends in the recovery and MCC communities. Thanks and gratitude to his doctors Lenny Yankulin and Debbie Gold. A celebration of Gregory's life will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 16th at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco. Gregory's courage and love of life will be deeply missed.

Jerald Lloyd Straughn
(“Jerry”)

July 30, 1964 - June 29, 2005

Jerry, a resident of Clayton, passed away June 29, 2005 in Concord. He was born in Norwalk, California. He was a free spirit. To have known Jerry was to be kept on your feet, and you never knew what he would say next. Jerry loved gardening, flying kites, music,

artist to his core. A magnificent landscape architect, Gregory achieved the goal of owning his own business, Antaeus Landscape Design. In his later years Gregory attended the Academy of Art to pursue



A Celebration of Life will be held on his birthday, July 30, 2005 in Clayton. Memorial donations may be made to: Northern California Friends of Faure, P.O. Box 3333, Modesto, CA 95353-3333.

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Memorial Sunday for lesbian activist Pat Durham

by Cynthia Laird

A memorial service will take place Sunday, July 17 for Pat Durham, a beloved leader and activist for women's, lesbian and gay, and elder rights. Ms. Durham died June 3 in Los Osos, California, at the age of 78. A cause of death was not released.

Ms. Durham was appointed to the San Francisco Commission on Aging in 1997 and served as its president from 1998-1999. She also was a founder and served as executive director and fundraiser for Options for Women Over 40 from 1979-86. Housed in the Women's Building, Options served a primarily ignored and underserved population of mid-life women with trainings, support, and social activities. After leaving Options, Ms. Durham coordinated Meals on Wheels with the late Dorra Jones, herself a leader and activist.

At Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders from 1987-92, now known as New Leaf Outreach to Elders, Ms. Durham served as co-



Pat Durham in a 1997 photo

director, making sure the lesbian population was visible and the offerings diverse and plentiful.

Retiring in 1992, Ms. Durham and her partner, Maggie Burke, an artist and activist, traveled a few years visiting national state parks. They settled in Guerneville. After Burke's sudden death in 1996, Ms. Durham returned to the Bay Area, where she served on the Commis-

sion on Aging.

Ms. Durham also co-founded the Pat Bond Old Dyke Awards, and was an organizer of Reading and Talking Women, an ongoing senior lesbian group sponsored by NLOE.

When she later moved to Los Osos to live with partner Rosemary Hathaway, also a highly respected activist, Ms. Durham became a docent at the Central Coast Natural History Museum, infecting all who learned from her with her never-waning enthusiasm. Explorers of life, Ms. Durham and Hathaway's love of nature sent them to Alaska and Hawaii and many other places.

Ms. Durham had a significant and far-reaching impact on the political attitudes towards women, lesbians, and elder citizens that will continue long into the future.

Ms. Durham is survived by her partner, Rosemary Hathaway; a daughter, Annelise Durham; two sons, Bob and John; and four grandchildren.

Sunday's memorial takes place from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street in San Francisco. ▼

Pendulum

◀ page 1

the Badlands issue may have convinced him to settle in L&G's favor.

"It may have worn him out. I don't know," he said. "We were fighting long before that issue. I still don't know any of these guys" from ACA4.

Calvin Gipson, an activist in the black community who approached Natali in January 2004 to express concerns about his purchasing the Pendulum, said he welcomes the change in the bar's

ownership.

"I think it is good that Les Natali, based on his history and his negative public relations with the black community, does not own the bar. He just does not have the required credibility," said Gipson. "I am unfamiliar with John but I wholeheartedly look forward to meeting him and reaching out to him and working with him to make the Pendulum a place where African Americans feel welcome and appreciated. It is a needed change."

Under Natali's ownership, Gipson said longtime patrons of the Pendulum no longer felt welcome

at the bar. He said such policies as closing the bar several nights, raising drinks prices, and changing the bartenders' hours resulted in a decline in patronage by African Americans.

"He was pretty effective at discouraging the clientele. Hopefully, people will want to come back, and I hope they come back in droves because the Castro needs black people," said Gipson.

John Newsome, an ACA4 organizer, added, "It is good for African Americans and the LGBT community, but Natali still has to be held accountable for violating civil rights at Badlands." ▼

AIDS Walk

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Rita Moreno; Roma Maffia of *Nip/Tuck*; Hal Sparks from *Queer As Folk*; Jai Rodriguez from *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*; and ABC7 TV's Dan Ashley. Mayor Gavin Newsom is also expected to attend the event.

Participants begin their 10-kilometer (6.2 mile) walk at 10 a.m.; while the event is non-competitive and everyone walks at their own pace, most people are back in Sharon Meadow by 12:30 p.m., according to Norton.

A post-walk concert features

the group Native Elements and other entertainers. Between 3 and 4 p.m., SFAF will announce the total amount of pledges raised based on projections that allow for walkers to turn all their money in by August 12. The bulk of the money is collected on the day of the event. Last year, AIDS Walk brought in \$3.2 million from 21,000 walkers that went toward SFAF's services and community beneficiaries.

Beneficiary organizations are chosen by diverse panels that review proposals and make recommendations for funding. The 45 organizations receiving funds from AIDS Walk are located in

San Francisco, Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Marin, and Contra Costa counties, and provide services such as healthcare, needle exchange, employment counseling, youth outreach, legal assistance, and culturally appropriate prevention efforts. The full list of beneficiaries can be found at www.horizonsfoundation.org/grants/grantees/2005/index.php.

Sharon Meadow is located at the eastern end of Golden Gate Park near the intersection of Kezar and Kennedy and is accessible by several Muni bus lines.

For more information on Sunday's AIDS Walk, call (415) 615-WALK, or visit www.aidswalk.net. ▼

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The golden glove

by Jim Provenzano

Seriously, how much do you have to hate gay people to not want them to play softball?" asked Kevin Boyer, a spokesman for the 2006 Gay Games in Chicago. This was in response to the American Family

Association's call for Illinois-based Kraft Foods to withdraw its \$25,000 sponsorship, according to the Associated Press on June 24.

Last week, an episode of the Morgan Spurlock show *30 Days* featured a rightwing youth minister and acknowledged homophobe who spent a month living here in San Francisco. Among his

Castro "lifestyle" activities was running with FrontRunners and joining a softball team. He seemed to get through it unscathed, and a little less homophobic than before.

I'd like to invite any of these members of the AFA who think we shouldn't—or can't—play softball, or any other sport, to come to a softball game and get over their stupid-ass selves.

Blunt? Yes, but so were the early efforts to get a sports movement going. A big part of that, of course, is softball.

Although local playoffs have been completed among teams on the Gay Softball League, fall leagues are coming up, and in August more than a dozen San Francisco teams will travel south to San Diego for the annual World Series.

Among them is a team started by a man who's no longer with us. I met him first in the form of a little golden glove trophy.

Team SWAT (Softball With A Twist) was formed in August 2004 by one of San Francisco's most winning gay softball coaches, Tim Murphy. His friends remember him as being strict, professional, and highly competitive.

Late last summer, Murphy was very sick with testicular cancer. But as catcher Joe Rodriguez tells it, Murphy "wanted to coach one last team, a group of guys who were, in his words, 'inexperienced but had all the right stuff'—namely, having the strong desire to learn the fundamentals of softball and the ability to give 110 percent on the field."

In early October 2004, the newly formed SWAT played a tournament in San Diego, winning about half of their D Division games. "Tim was proud how far we had come in just two months; but he could tell that his cancer was coming back and his time was running out," said Ro-



Softball With A Twist (SWAT), above, and 12 other teams, are off to the Gay Softball World Series next month.

driguez of Murphy, who bravely fought his illness for over 10 years through multiple operations.

"Most of the team didn't know how sick Tim was," Rodriguez said. But at a December 11 practice, expecting their coach to put the players through the usual grueling paces, they instead learned that Murphy had died a few hours before.

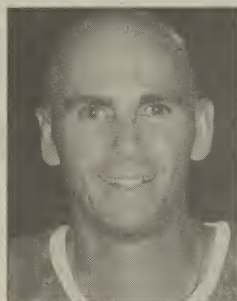
"Up to his final days, he was scripting our practices, designing our uniforms (which he paid for, too) and thinking about how to improve the skills of each and every player," said Rodriguez.

For the next three months, manager Leo Alcala and the team worked with a temporary coach who stepped in after Murphy's death.

But when their new coach had to leave the team due to family reasons, soon SWAT was on its own again, with the players assuming the coaching roles, until Brad Leary volunteered to be their replacement coach.

"Since then," Rodriguez said, "we've gone undefeated in regular San Francisco Gay Softball League play, which is amazing for an inexperienced, young team."

By late May, at the Golden Bear final tournament game, tied 4-4



One of softball's best: Tim Murphy

for several innings, it looked like the swan song for Murphy's team. Close to the end, the Vipers pulled ahead, leading by 8 to 4.

"Just as I was about to bat, I quickly said a silent prayer, asking for Tim's help and guidance," said Rodriguez. "Then a something miraculous happened. We got four hits in a row. We tied the game. The crowd and the Vipers were stunned. We were, too."

Finally, with two outs, the SWAT shortstop hit a double to center field, bringing in the winning run for SWAT.

"With half my teammates openly crying on the field, we jumped for joy and knowing how far we have come together in eight months," said Rodriguez.

SWAT won the men's D division championship at the Golden Bear Classic, finished the 2005 season in second place, and came in third in the SFSGL playoffs. The league named SWAT's Leary and Alcala "Coach of the Year, D Division" and "Manager of the Year, D Division," respectively.

And in late June, Rodriguez found out that another team, the Comets, declined their berth to the Gay Softball World Series, so SWAT will be taking their place.

Other teams headed to the World Series are: the SF Seals, D2 (Open A); Rolo Style, SF Spitfire (Open B); SF Hard Drive, SF Scorpions (Open C); Metro Angels and SWAT, (Open D); SF Fire, women's competitive league; Pilner Panthers and the Basters, women's alternative league; and in women's recreational league, My Sisters will be going as well.

But back to that golden glove trophy.

In April, just days before the *Sporting Life* exhibit was set to open, Murphy's friend and player Alcala brought in a few boxes of trophies and photos, all of them Murphy's.

To see such an accomplished life whittled down to these few artifacts was heartbreaking. Choosing a mere few items to include in the softball display case of the exhibit was a painful decision.

But that little golden glove trophy, so damn cute. It had to be included, along with a signed team

next page ►

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tsunami BBQ picnic

Join the swimmingest team around, Tsunami, as members get out of the pool and cook up some vittles. Meet swimmers, water polo players, and even synchronized swimmers, as they prepare for their trek to Atlanta for this year's annual IGLA tournament. Tsunami's social committee has been hard at work planning another amazing event. "We're finally getting around to figuring out what we need to buy at Smart & Final," said one organizer. Saturday, July 16, 12:30 p.m. at Dolores Park. Info: www.sftsunami.org.

Jocks author Dan Woog

Meet Dan Woog, soccer coach and author of the bestselling sports books *Jocks* and *Jocks II*, as he discusses "Coming out of the Locker Room Closet" (www.danwoog.com). Refreshments, exhibit, and archive tours included. Wednesday, July 20, 6 to 8 p.m., at the GLBT Historical Society, 657 Mission Street #300. Info: (415) 777-5455 or www.glbthistory.org.

Golf benefit

Play in the SF Gay Softball League's golf fundraiser, Sunday July 24. Call (415) 436-0707 or e-mail: generalmember@sfgsl.org. Meet players from the 13 World Series-bound GSL teams at a send-off party, Saturday, August 6, at the White Horse Inn, 6551 Telegraph Avenue in Oakland. Info: (510) 652-3820 or visit www.whitehorsebar.com.

Helen Carroll & NCLR

Meet Helen Carroll, former athletic director, Mills College coach, and the National Center for Lesbian Rights' Homophobia in Sports project director. Carroll will discuss the successful cases won by NCLR (www.nclrights.org) for women coaches and athletes, and discuss the situation in schools and universities and professional teams in education and outreach. Refreshments, exhibit, and archive tours included. Wednesday, July 27, 6 to 8 p.m. at the GLBT Historical Society, 657 Mission St. #300. Info: (415) 777-5455 or www.glbthistory.org.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Senior housing

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person on the board to step up to the presidency, that I would look forward to stepping down. And so much has happened in my own life since starting Openhouse."

Gurevitch's death, said Adelman, was unexpected and is still difficult to talk about. But her life has remained an inspiration for Adelman, who on June 1 distributed a mailing that challenged community members to donate in Gurevitch's memory with the promise that Adelman would match every donation up to \$25,000. The response was overwhelming.

"We met the challenge by the end of June," said Adelman, noting that the money raised actually slightly exceeded the \$25,000 goal. "I feel very grateful to all our supporters and their belief in the Openhouse project and the need for senior housing and sensitive services for our community. It's unusual for a June fundraising request to have a response like that. It really speaks to the strong base of support we have in the community for this project."

The funds raised through the challenge grant will go toward Openhouse's operating costs, land acquisition, and site planning. An additional \$225,000 has been pledged from past supporters for these efforts.

Separately, Openhouse recently made a presentation to San Francisco's Commission on Aging and Adult Services for help in securing \$25,000 to continue its sensitivity training work. Supervisor Bevan Duffy spoke in support of the organization at the commission meeting last Wednesday.

The organization's presentation was "terrific," said openly gay Commissioner Gustavo Serina. "It outlined the tremendous needs of gays, lesbians, and transgender people as they age in San Francisco."

Serina said that he has asked the Department of Aging and Adult Services to come up with the money for Openhouse, but it is unclear how much funding is available given the current budget crunch.

"I certainly think there is widespread support for it," said Serina. "It's a tight budget situation and we'll have to see what we can come up with. But I know that outreach to LGBT seniors is a part of their objectives for the next fiscal year and they are determined to work on addressing the needs of these populations."

A recent survey of 100 randomly selected senior service agencies, said Adelman, showed that 58 percent of them do not provide LGBT training at all, even though 68 percent said they considered LGBT issues relevant to quality of care. Those with the best intentions, said Adelman, cannot effectively care for LGBT seniors if they cannot identify them or make their services LGBT-inclusive. Getting local services up to speed is one way for Openhouse to be proactive while the organization pursues its build-

ing plans, said Adelman.

Change in plans

"We're still focused primarily on building housing. In the meantime, we need to make sure that LGBT-sensitive services are in place by the time we open the door. And you can't create those kinds of services overnight," said Adelman, noting that the project planned for Openhouse is a "village" with supportive services, although the scope of those services and size of the residential village has been scaled down as a result of a change in potential building sites.

Originally, Openhouse was eyeing two parcels of land that were created as a result of the demolition of the Central Freeway and would have accommodated more than 200 units of housing. Some political wrangling at the end of last year between Openhouse and the city's Redevelopment Commission stalled those plans, but ultimately, the decision to find a different site was financial.

"The bottom line is, it just got way too expensive," said Carlson, adding that the new site will accommodate about 100-120 units of housing.

Negotiations for the land are with a private owner and are confidential, but Openhouse hopes to announce the site by the beginning of next year. The developer AF Evans is working with the group to help put the land deal together, said Carlson.

"It's still a good-sized site and a great location. Because it's much smaller, we may not be able to have everything we hoped for, at first. But the goal is sometime down the line to be able to secure a site that will be able to provide all of the things we had planned," said Carlson. "We see this as being our phase one Openhouse project and we'll do it in collaboration with other senior services."

Adelman echoed this strategy, calling the approach more of an incremental one, where services and additional structures may be added at later dates.

"The plans for a mixed income multicultural village are still in place but that can be put in place in different ways," said Adelman. "Regardless of income, everybody needs some kind of assistance as they age. Whether you live in Openhouse housing or choose to remain in your own home, we're going to see that the services are going to be there for you to feel comfortable as you age."

Adelman said that despite previous roadblocks, Openhouse's commitment is strong, community support is unwavering, and progress continues to be made.

"The community I think has come to see Openhouse as a long-term care insurance. Everyone understands the need to have it there, whether or not they need it themselves," said Adelman. "I think the community understands the kind of changes and flexibility required of a project like Openhouse and the patience it takes to build housing. I think everybody knows that we're going to get there." ▼

can remind people of our rich legacy in sports, the fewer lies they have to dismiss us. ▼

Read more columns at www.sportscomplex.org. The **NAGAAA World Series is August 15-20 in San Diego.** Info: www.series2005.org/ For info on other summer events and fall leagues, call (415) 436-0707 or visit www.sfgsl.org.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE A-0286193-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Inner Richmond Promotions, 408 Balboa St. San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Gene L. Rodgers. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/16/05. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/16/05. **JUNE 23, 30 JULY 7, 14, 2005**

STATEMENT FILE A-0286143-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Matano Design, 1800 Washington St. #714 San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Tsutomu Matano. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 1/5/05. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/15/05. **JUNE 23, 30 JULY 7, 14, 2005**

STATEMENT FILE A-0286174-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Presidio School Of Management, Building 36, Ste 120, The Presidio, San Francisco, Ca. 94129. This business is conducted by a corporation, signed Nathan Joblin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/15/05. **JUNE 23, 30 JULY 7, 14, 2005**

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME: #0248789

The following person(s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Gnostic Friends Network located at 493 Haight St. #31 San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business was conducted by an individual signed Alexander H. Guldbek. The fictitious name was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 5/11/01. **JUNE 23, 30 JULY 7, 14, 2005**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE # CNC 05542050

In the matter of the application of Jenni Eun-Mi Chang for change of name. The application of Jenni Eun-Mi Chang for change of name having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Jenni Eun-Mi Chang has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Jenni Eun-Mi Zaidi. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Room 218 on the 28th day of July, 2005 at 9:00 am of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. **JUNE 23, 30 JULY 7, 14, 2005**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE # CNC 05542048

In the matter of the application of Syed Hassan for change of name. The application of Syed Hassan for change of name having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Syed Hassan has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Syed Hassan Zaidi. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Room 218 on the 28th day of July, 2005 at 9:00 am of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. **JUNE 23, 30 JULY 7, 14, 2005**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE # CNC 05541940

In the matter of the application of Kian-Chai Gokk for change of name. The application of Kian-Chai Gokk for change of name having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Kian-Chai Gokk has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Casey Gokk. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Room 218 on the 11th day of August, 2005 at 9:00 am of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. **JUNE 23, 30 JULY 7, 14, 2005**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE # CNC 05542125

In the matter of the application of Heather Rabine for change of name. The application of Heather Rabine for change of name having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Heather Rabine has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to H. Zoe Rabine. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Room 218 on the 4th day of August, 2005 at 9:00 am of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. **JUNE 23, 30 JULY 7, 14, 2005**

STATEMENT FILE A-0286393-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Catium, 345 12th Ave. San Francisco, Ca. 94118-2108. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed Daniel M. Catalaa. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/23/05. **JUNE 30 JULY 7, 14, 21, 2005**

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

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8238 Public Safety Communications 911 Dispatcher
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RFP - FAMILY SUPPORT 2005

First 5 San Francisco seeks to identify agencies to implement family support services to increase access of families with children 0 - 5 years old to activities that will increase the healthy development of children and the nurturing capacity and stability of families. Funds are available to serve children 0 - 5 and their families in specified neighborhood areas and identifiable groups of children who reside citywide. Individual grants up to \$525,000 over three years are available through this RFP. Total initiative funding is \$6,000,000 over three years. The RFP will be available July 1, 2005 at 1390 Market St., Ste. 318, San Francisco, CA or at www.sfids.org. A non-mandatory bidder's conference will be held July 12th from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 101 Grove St., Room 300. The proposal deadline is August 15, 2005.

VACANCY NOTICES

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 54974, California Government Code, notice is hereby given of the following unscheduled vacancies. Interested persons may obtain an application form from the Clerk of the Rules Committee, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4689. Completed applications should be submitted to the Clerk of the Board. All applicants must be residents of San Francisco, unless otherwise stated. Additional information may be obtained by accessing the City's web site: www.sfgov.org/bdsuprvs

Please Note: Depending upon the posting date, some vacancies may have already been filled. To determine if vacancies for this Board/Committee/Commission of Task Force are still available please call the Rules Committee Clerk at 554-5184.

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/ADVISORY COMMITTEES
Seat 3 and 4, must be a nominee of their District Supervisor. Each member must serve a two-year term or for the tenure of the supervisor who nominated the member, whichever is shorter in duration, for the unexpired portion of a two-year term ending November 19, 2006.

COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION CITIZENS ADVISORY TASK FORCE
Seat 3, must be an environmental justice advocate currently residing in Hunters Point, for the unexpired portion of a two-year term ending May 31, 2006.

Please contact Ruby Rippey-Tourk (554-6604) in the Mayor's Office for requests for appointment to the Mayor's two seats.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Seat 2, must be a representative from pedestrian safety organizations, for the unexpired portion of a two-year term ending March 28, 2007.

Seat 4, must be a representative from senior or disability organizations, for the unexpired portion of a two-year term ending March 28, 2007.

Seat 6, must be a representative from bicycle or other non-motorized wheeled personal transport organization, for the unexpired portion of a two-year term ending March 28, 2007.

Seat 8, must be a representative from child advocate or school support organization, for the unexpired portion of a two-year term ending March 28, 2007.

Seat 10, must represent the public at-large, for the unexpired portion of a two-year term ending March 28, 2007.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Please complete a meeting information/public noticing survey online at <http://www.sfgov.org/site/bdsuprvs> or call (415) 554-5184 for a survey form.

STATEMENT FILE A-0286390-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: L5 Productions, LLC, 1261 Howard St., 3rd Floor, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a limited liability company, signed Lynn Hensman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/16/05. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/23/05. **JUNE 30 JULY 7, 14, 21, 2005**

STATEMENT FILE A-0286314-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Fogon, 659 Union St., San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by a corporation, signed Edward Tinsley. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/20/05. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/21/05. **JUNE 30 JULY 7, 14, 21, 2005**

STATEMENT FILE A-0286312-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Al-Hamra Indian & Pakistani Restaurant, 3083 16th St., San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed Irfan Kashif, Ajaz Ghani. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/20/05. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/21/05. **JUNE 30 JULY 7, 14, 21, 2005**

STATEMENT FILE A-0286026-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Make It Happen Entertainment, 355 Serrano Dr. #E, San Francisco, Ca. 94132. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Shane Robinson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/09/05. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/09/05. **JUNE 30 JULY 7, 14, 21, 2005**

STATEMENT FILE A-0286481-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Hooker's Gumbo Shack, 35 6th St., San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed James E. Hooker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 10/01/04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/28/05. **JUNE 30 JULY 7, 14, 21, 2005**

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME: #0282379

The following person(s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Catium located at 345 12th Ave., San Francisco, Ca. 94118-2108. This business was conducted by an individual signed Daniel Catalaa. The fictitious name was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 1/26/05. **JUNE 23, 30 JULY 7, 14, 2005**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To whom it may concern: The name of the applicants is/are Bird Brain LLC. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control at 71 Stevenson Street, Suite #1500 San Francisco, Ca. 94105, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 572 Castro St., San Francisco, Ca. 94114. Type of License applied for: **42 - ON-SALE BEER AND WINE - PUBS/CLUBS**. **JUNE 30, JULY 7, 14, 2005**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To whom it may concern: The name of the applicants is/are Supreme Chicken Of 24th Street LLC. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control at 71 Stevenson Street, Suite #1500 San Francisco, Ca. 94105, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 2801 Folsom St., San Francisco, Ca. 94110. Type of License applied for: **41 - ON-SALE BEER AND WINE - EATING PLACE**. **JUNE 30, JULY 7, 14, 2005**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To whom it may concern: The name of the applicants is/are Supreme Chicken Columbus LLC. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control at 71 Stevenson Street, Suite #1500 San Francisco, Ca. 94105, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 279 Columbus Ave., San Francisco, Ca. 94133. Type of License applied for: **41 - ON-SALE BEER AND WINE - EATING PLACE**. **JUNE 30, JULY 7, 14, 2005**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To whom it may concern: The name of the applicants is/are Bon Appetit Management Co. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control at 71 Stevenson Street, Suite #1500 San Francisco, Ca. 94105, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 50 S. Teal Garden Dr., Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. Type of License applied for: **47 - ON-SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE**. **JUNE 30, JULY 7, 14, 2005**

STATEMENT FILE A-0286121-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Grateful Dead, 46 Henry St. San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Robert Leavander. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/14/05. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/14/05. **JULY 7, 14, 21, 28, 2005**

STATEMENT FILE A-0286557-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lilly's Productions, 230 Eddy St. #507, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Corazon Smith. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/30/05. **JULY 7, 14, 21, 28, 2005**

Sports Complex

◀ previous page

ball, and behind it, and a compelling photo of Murphy with his team from a few years back. Look for the bright orange jerseys and a fierce determination in one man's eyes.

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE A-0286497-00

The following person(s) are doing business as:
Tooker & Antz, 350 Sansome St. Ste 700,
San Francisco, Ca. 94104. This business is
conducted by an individual, signed Frederic
Tooker. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed fic-
titious business name or names on 1/1/95. The
statement was filed with the City and County
of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/28/05.
JULY 14, 21, 28, 2005

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRAN- CISCO FILE # CNC 05542187

In the matter of the application of Shawn
Vene Giammattei for change of gender. The
application of Shawn Vene Giammattei for
change of gender having been filed in Court,
and it appearing from said application that
Shawn Vene Giammattei has filed an applica-
tion for change of gender from female to
male. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered,
that all persons interested in said matter do
appear before this Court in Room 218 on
the 25th day of August, 2005 at 9:00 am of
said day to show cause why the application
for change of name should not be granted.
JULY 7, 14, 21, 28, 2005

STATEMENT FILE A-0286705-00

The following person(s) are doing business
as: Creative Jewelry, 101 Utah St. #112,
San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business
is conducted by an individual, signed An-
sela Wang. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed fic-
titious business name or names on 7/07/05.
The statement was filed with the City and
County of San Francisco, Ca. on 7/07/05.
JULY 14, 21, 28, AUG 4 2005

STATEMENT FILE A-0286159-00

The following person(s) are doing business as:
Mathew Harney Personal Services, 290 Di-
visadero St., San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This
business is conducted by an individual, signed
Mathew Harney. The registrant(s) commenced
to transact business under the above listed fic-
titious business name or names on N/A. The
statement was filed with the City and County
of San Francisco, Ca. on 7/15/05.
JULY 14, 21, 28, AUG 4 2005

STATEMENT FILE A-0286662-00

The following person(s) are doing business as:
Vietnam Too Restaurant, 701 Larkin St.,
San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is
conducted by a general partnership, signed
Vy Quoc Le. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed fic-
titious business name or names on 7/01/05.
The statement was filed with the City and
County of San Francisco, Ca. on 7/06/05.
JULY 14, 21, 28, AUG 4 2005

STATEMENT FILE A-0286444-00

The following person(s) are doing business as:
Artisan Wines & Spirits, Pier 19, San
Francisco, Ca. 94111. This business is
conducted by a corporation, signed Lou
Bock. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed fic-
titious business name or names on N/A. The
statement was filed with the City and County
of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/24/05.
JULY 14, 21, 28, AUG 4 2005

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF AL- COHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

To whom it may concern: The name of the
applicant is/are Galleria Park Associates,
LLC and Perry's Downtown, Inc. The appli-
cants listed above are applying to the De-
partment of Alcoholic Beverage Control at
71 Stevenson Street, Suite #1500 San
Francisco, Ca. 94105, to sell alcoholic
beverages at 185 Sutter St. San Francis-
co, Ca. 94104. Type of License applied for:
47 - ON-SALE GENERAL EATING
PLACE 66- CONTROLLED ACCESS
CABINET PERMIT JULY 14, 2005

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME: #0284199

The following person(s) have abandoned
the use of the fictitious business name
known as Vietnam Too Restaurant located
at 701 Larkin St. San Francisco, Ca.
94109. This business was conducted by an
individual signed Katie Nguyen. The fic-
titious name was filed with the City and
County of San Francisco, Ca. on 7/06/05.
JULY 14, 21, 28 AUG 4, 2005

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRAN- CISCO FILE # CNC 05542219

In the matter of the application of Quan Minh
Pham for change of name. The application of
Qan Minh Pham for change of name having been
filed in Court, and it appearing from said applica-
tion that Quan Minh Pham has filed an applica-
tion proposing that his/her name be changed
to Thomas Gia Phan. Now therefore, it is hereby
ordered, that all persons interested in said mat-
ter do appear before this Court in Room 218 on
the 6th day of September, 2005 at 9:00 am of
said day to show cause why the application for
change of name should not be granted.
JULY 14, 21, 28, AUG 4, 2005

STATEMENT FILE A-0286831-00

The following person(s) are doing business as:
Sevendays Creation, 2306 28th Avenue, San
Francisco, Ca. 94116. This business is con-
ducted by a husband and wife, signed Samuel
Chew. The registrant(s) commenced to trans-
act business under the above listed fictitious
business name or names on 7/12/05. The
statement was filed with the City and County
of San Francisco, Ca. on 7/12/05.
JULY 14, 21, 28, AUG 4 2005

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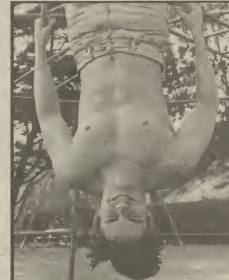
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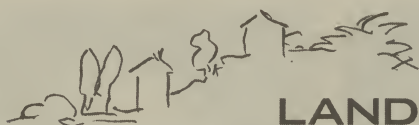
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'Little Sister's Classics' gay reissues
Arsenal Pulp Press presents 'Song of the Loon,' 'The Young in One Another's Arms.'
page 33

Fall from grace
An angel among devils in Falcon's 'Heaven to Hell.'
page 39



Get 'Happy'
Don Roos' new comedy 'Happy Endings' opens.
page 28



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 35 • No. 28 • 14 July 2005

In Thailand, cinematic dreamtime

Tropical Malady appears on US screens

by Tim Pfaff



Tong (Sakda Kaewbudee) and Keng (Bonlop Lomnoi)

Tropical *Malady* sounds like something you shouldn't catch. But when it hits Bay Area screens starting on Friday, by all means catch it. The worst thing the Thai independent film which won the Audience and Jury Prizes at the last Cannes Festival can do is haunt you for the rest of your life. Having seen it eight times during its commercial run in Bangkok (two to get it, six more to get it all), I promise you won't leave the theater the same person who arrived.

Beginning with the disastrous 2001 sandal epic *Suriyothai* (Thailand's *Cleopatra*, which even a re-edit and partial reshoot by Francis Ford Coppola couldn't

save), Thailand has been desperate to get its films onto the international market. This Western observer of hundreds of Thai films thinks it's not an accident that the ones with the best chances of commercial success abroad are the gay- and transgender-themed *Beautiful Boxer* and now *Tropical Malady* — whose Thai title *Sad Pralat*, or *Monster*, makes more sense. They're adult films in a way other Thai films haven't been: they're grown-up.

Tropical Malady director Apichatpong ("Joe") Weerasethakul is still incredulous about the intensity of the public's response to *Tropical Malady*. Interviewed in Bangkok, Joe said, "My priority was to make a film

truthful to myself. I believe there are people like me everywhere, so I don't worry whether people will understand." There's little likelihood this shy yet affable and highly industrious filmmaker will go much farther in "explaining" *Malady*. But he'll talk about it.

The 118-minute film is in two almost exactly equal halves, separated by what every first-time viewer assumes is projector accident: a literal break in the film. That simple but masterful touch was already in the shooting script, he says.

The first half, despite its many bizarre moments, is a realistic enough story of life in today's Thailand, shot

page 30 ►

The unsinkable Debbie Reynolds

Coming to the Castro Theatre stage next Friday night by Tavo Amador

The soft voice on the other end of the line said, "This is Debbie Reynolds." She answered the phone herself and was on time for our interview. She's appearing at the Castro Theatre on July 22, in what may be the most memorable night in Marc Huestis Presents' 10 years of producing legendary events. Miss Reynolds will be interviewed on stage by *The Poseidon Adventure*'s Carol Lynley before a screening of her biggest hit, *The Unsinkable Molly Brown*.

Reynolds headlined the first major AIDS benefit in San Francisco, at Davies Symphony Hall. "It was very difficult to get other performers to come," she recalled. "People were afraid they'd catch the disease just by shaking hands with the afflicted." Her good friend Shirley MacLaine appeared, as did

Mayor Dianne Feinstein. Reynolds was terrific. Backstage after the performance, a woman asked her if she heard much from ex-husband Eddie Fisher. Reynolds replied, "No. And I don't think Elizabeth [Taylor] does, either. Perhaps you should check with Connie Stevens." After being reminded of this, she says, "That was pretty funny. But I am funny. I look at life with humor, and try to make light of problems."

Baby boomers remember the scandal when Taylor, widowed by producer Mike Todd, "stole" Fisher from Reynolds. "Elizabeth was devastated by Mike's death. I cared for her children at my house right after it happened. And I told Eddie to be a friend to Elizabeth. Eddie and Mike had been close. Elizabeth married Eddie in hopes of keeping Mike alive. When she met Richard [Burton], she realized it was a mistake," Fisher, she adds, "was an awful father. Not a person to admire." She and Taylor reconciled 40 years ago and remain friends.

Was filming the scene in *These Old Brooms* in which she and Taylor dish the husband their characters had in common difficult? "We barely got through it, we were laughing so much. It was Elizabeth's idea to say, 'Those skinny, hairless legs. What did we see in him?'" Carrie Fisher, Reynolds' daughter, had written *Brooms*, and Taylor agreed to do the

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SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

Enquiring minds want to leer

Secrets of a gay Marine porn-star consumer

by Roberto Friedman

Hello, our name is Out There, and we are a chronic user and abuser of gay Marine porn stars. We're going to share what we know from p.r. sources about Attorney **Rich Merritt**, whose memoir *Secrets of a Gay Marine Porn Star* was recently published by Kensington Books. Here's the truth about Merritt's termination from his position at the Atlanta law firm of **Powell Goldstein, LLP**: It was grim smiles and brisk handshakes all around. Merritt voluntarily notified the firm earlier this year about the book's impending release. We hope Powell and Goldstein were sitting down.



Merritt in his Marine dress uniform

"While the nature and terms of Merritt's separation agreement must remain confidential, the author is committed to making the latest chapter in his story public," says the legalese. Based on some quality thumb-time with his book, we'd say committed is one word for it.

Merritt was the gay Marine featured anonymously in the famous 1998 *New York Times Magazine* article which blew the lid off

gays in the military. His identity was then revealed by *The Advocate*, resulting in a s—storm of notoriety. Merritt, a former fundamentalist Christian and model student at **Bob Jones University**, had barely finished adjusting to the scrutiny and loss of privacy afforded by his new out life when the *Advocate* piece caused an international s—scandal by outing his performances in gay pornos.

At the risk of resembling a gay version of this week's *Star* magazine, should we go on? We'll go on. In his memoir *de porn*, Merritt reveals what it's like to be the most notorious Marine in the world, how he "regrouped" in that butch, military way, and how he moved on with post-porn life. He also tells why he didn't let on to the *Times* that he was a porn prop. Uh, could it be a magazine exclusive? Wild guess.

Juicy photos in the book's mid-section include All Worlds Video publicity stills of Merritt billed as **Danny Orlis** on the set of 1995 porno *Bad Moon Rising*. Also one of Danny with porn superstar **Chad Knight** on the set of *Bulls-eye*. Plus 468 pages of text.

Tom & other turkeys

This week we're pretending to be a supermarket tabloid writer. *Wheel!*

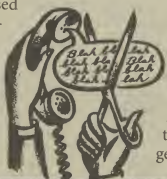
Overlooked fact in all the recent **Tom Cruise** hooplah is his special breed of hypocrisy making a rare showing. Who, after all, is Cruise to criticize other people's use of medication or therapy when he's been a major user of facial reconstruction?

A world-renowned expert of Cruisology sat us down and walked us through the highlights of the star's new face. Remember when his eyebrow used to go all the way across his forehead in that charming unibrow? The Cruise nose used to come straight down

from his forehead, and his front teeth used to have a peculiar, boyish gap. Isn't all this cosmetic reconstruction a form of therapy? Hadn't he already become a star before all this work was done? That makes it all psychological crutchery. What has Scientology got to say about that?

On his behalf, we will say that Cruise looks smashing in a pair of tight Levi's in *War of the Worlds*. Even a bit, we said bit, of basket. As he gets older, both the skin and the pants get tighter.

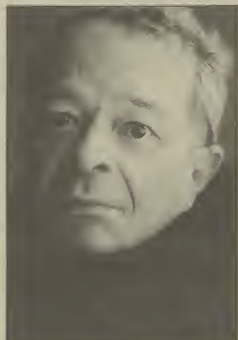
The world, meanwhile, gets hairier. We were just chuckling around the office water-cooler, remembering when the summer could be counted upon as slow news-days. Shucks, not any more!



Out There



So thank heavens for the new book **Schwarzenegger Syndrome**—*Politics and Celebrity in the Age of Contempt* (New Press) by our old pal, novelist and critic **Gary Indiana**. His is an uncensored voice that can find in 9/11 "a chance for **George W. Bush** to posture like a painfully constipated fire marshal in the London Blitz, costumed as a rescue worker perched atop the smoking wreckage of the World Trade Cen-



Gary Indiana casts a gelid eye.

ter, whining a litany of vapid solemnities through a megaphone that seemed surgically implanted in his voice box ever after."

Indiana takes Gov. Arnold's speech to the 2004 Republican National Convention as a jumping-off point into our present Hell. "Arnold smiled the way a man smiles when he's grabbed fate by the balls and run with it so many times he's never had to learn how to lose. It was a moment camera-ready for **Leni Riefenstahl**, and Arnold ran with that too."

This "Schwarzenegger Syndrome" [SS], as it happens, perfectly complements "the militarism and xenophobia the Bush II administration skillfully mobilized after the 9/11 attacks." Indiana's well-put polemic is a palliative for SS and the war without end.

Spanish fly-girl

Let's bring the room up a little, shall we?

Cuchie to you if you've already bought your tickets to

Kung Pao Kosher Comedy Presents Charo! and her *Las Vegas Show* coming soon to the Herbst Theatre on Sat., Aug. 6, at 7 p.m.

Jet-setting **Charo** (born **Maria Rosario Pilar Martinez Molina Baeza** in Murcia, Spain) and her hubby will fly up here the weekend before her show, so she'll be in our fair city the whole week doing promos. She's gonna love it.

A Charo lookalike contest at Trannyshack on Tues., Aug. 2, at 10 p.m. is a go. It's scheduled for 10 p.m. because some of us are getting older. But good luck getting a bunch of drag queens out that early. We're told that Charo

herself once entered a Charo lookalike contest, for a good cause in olde San Juan, Puerto Rico, but we're pained to say the facts are that she *lost*, to a drag queen who did a *better* Charo than Charo. Well, facts, as olde **Ronnie Ray-gun** used to say, are stupid things. The promoter told Charo she had to practice more. Out There says she's already got it down pat. *Ayayayay!*

She's also signed on to do a CD signing, on Wed., Aug. 3 at 6 p.m. at Medium Rare Records, 2310 Market St., by 16th St. But the big enchilada is that a little *pajarillo* in **Señor Supervisor Tom Ammi**—no's office confirms that the City of SF is going to proclaim the week of August 1 "Official Charo Week." Click your flamenco heels together and bring on that Spanish guitar. Info at koshercomedy.com, tix at cityboxoffice.com.

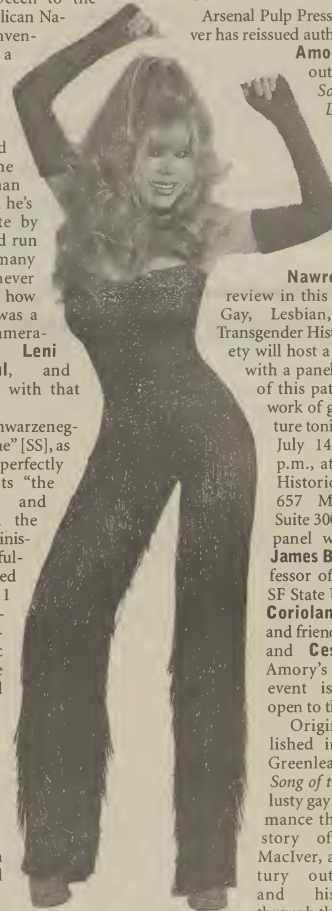
Loon rise

Arsenal Pulp Press of Vancouver has reissued author **Richard Amory's** long-out-of-print *Song of the Loon*, the most popular American gay erotic novel of the '60s

[see **Jim Nawrocki's** book review in this issue]. The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society will host a book party with a panel discussion of this path-breaking work of gay pop culture tonight, Thurs., July 14, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the GLBT Historical Society, 657 Mission St., Suite 300, in SF. The panel will include **James Brogan**, professor of English at SF State Univ.; **John Coriolan**, novelist and friend of Amory; and **Cesar Love**, Amory's son. The event is free and open to the public.

Originally published in 1966 by Greenleaf Classics, *Song of the Loon* is a lusty gay frontier romance that tells the story of Ephraim Maciver, a 19th-century outdoorsman, and his travels through the American wilderness, where he meets characters who share stories, wisdom and homosexual encounters.

Loon was the inspiration for two sequels, an independent feature film, at least one porn movie and a parody novel. The gay characters in *Song of the Loon* are strong and romantically drawn, traits which have earned the book a place in the canon of gay American literature. The GLBT Historical Society has a collection of materials related to *Song of the Loon*. Most notable is the original negative and prints of the motion picture release of *Song of the Loon* ('70). For more info, call (415) 777-5455 or visit www.glbthistory.org. ▼



Charo brings her 'cuchie' to the Herbst Theatre.

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THEATRE

Evil empire strikes back

San Francisco Mime Troupe is 'Doing Good'

by Richard Dodds

The San Francisco Mime Troupe comes out of the kind of theater that once mocked kings. But now that mocking George W. Bush, the king of the moment, is theatrical child's play, the Mime Troupe has switched gears for its 2005 summer show titled *Doing Good*.

Amos Glick and Ed Holmes, the company's resident channelers of Bush and Cheney, are off playing these characters elsewhere, and *Doing Good* attempts to show how the current Administration's policies are really just more of the same, if more brazen. The results are informative but not very entertaining.

Indeed, this is the least "fun" Mime Troupe show in the eight years I have been regularly attending its summer offerings. Not that the troupe is disguising this fact. "Warning: History Play" reads a sign displayed at the start of the show. But the problem with *Doing Good* isn't in its more sober style, but in how clunky it can become in both script and Victor Toman's direction.

Six authors are credited with crafting the script, which takes its inspiration from John Perkins' book *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*. Rather than focus on caricaturized villains, as the Mime Troupe often does, the central character is pretty much a human-sized figure with a history likely to be familiar to many in the audience. In the opening scene, James is a college student against the Vietnam War who hopes either the Peace Corps or VISTA will keep him out of uniform. Through the years, he winds up in Ecuador, Indonesia, Panama, and Iran, as a self-declared do-gooder with increasingly aggressive capitalistic tendencies.

In country after country where America has found or encouraged or installed a sympathetic government, its leaders are sold on massive construction projects to be led by US firms and financed through US government loans. Our hero James, now a salesman, is at first convinced that improving infrastructure will help the poor, but even as evidence suggests otherwise, his zeal only increases. When he runs into anti-American sentiments in pre-revo-

lution Iran, he declares, "You are confusing the government with the private sector."

Of course, the point is that they cannot be separated, and as in confirmation, a headline in the July 8 *Chronicle* read, "Military to Pay Halliburton Another \$5 Billion." That's on top of the \$10 billion Halliburton has already received for its Iraq work.

But while the message of *Doing Good* ultimately gets delivered, it does so despite haphazardly structured scenes, underdefined characters, and dialogue that doesn't make interesting the discussion of boring things (and any sentence that includes the word "hectare" falls into that category). But among the large cast, Noah James Butler, as James, delivers a strong and clear performance, and Lisa Hori-Garcia scores points as James' increasingly skeptical wife. Several Brechtian-style songs of harsh political sentiments provide moments of focused energy that is often missing from *Doing Good*.

Free performances of *Doing Good* will continue at area parks through the summer. For a schedule, go to sfmt.org, or call 285-1717. ▼



Lisa Hori-Garcia and Noah James Butler of San Francisco Mime Troupe

Plush coming attractions

Cabaret announces fall season of big names

by Richard Dodds

The Empire Plush Room in the York Hotel has announced a fall schedule that includes four high-profile first-timers and one enduring favorite booked into the city's premier cabaret.

Linda Lavin will make her Plush Room debut Sept. 6-18 with *The Song Remembers When*. The show, with Billy Stritch at piano, is a casual career retrospective for the performer who made an early mark in musical theater in the 1960s before a long run in TV's *Alice* brought national fame. When Lavin returned to Broadway, it was mostly in non-musicals, including her Tony-winning turn in Neil Simon's *Broadway Bound* and more recently in Charles Busch's *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*.

One of her post-*Alice* Broadway appearances was in a musical, as Tyne Daly's replacement in the revival of *Gypsy*, and newspaper stories at that time suggested surprise that Lavin could also sing. Those with longer memories will recall Lavin in the '66 musical *It's a Wonderful Life*, stopping the show with "You've Got Possibilities," and earlier the same year in *The Mad Show* delivering Mary Rodgers and Stephen Sondheim's gay-angled "The Boy from..." Both songs are part of Lavin's 60-minute show.

There will be more career memories when Rita Moreno returns to the Plush Room on Sept. 20-Oct. 9 with a show titled *Between Love & Fascination*. Moreno has won a Tony Award (*The Ritz*) and an Oscar (*West Side Story*) as well as a Grammy and an Emmy, and now makes the Bay Area her home.

For Debby Boone's show, running Oct. 25-30, the musicalized



Linda Lavin: casual retrospective

memories do not include "You Light Up My Life." Rather, Boone will be singing songs associated with her late mother-in-law Rosemary Clooney. *Reflections of Rosemary* is the name of Boone's cabaret show as well as her recently released CD of Clooney standards. The CD and cabaret act mark Boone's return after a long hiatus from the spotlight.

A change of pace for the usually musically-minded Plush Room arrives Nov. 8-20 in the distinctive guise of Bruce Vilanch, who'll go for the laughs in *Almost Famous*. In the show, which had an off-Broadway run in 2000, Vilanch tells how he went from being a chubby child actor to newspaperman to gag writer before returning to performing as the resident gay guy on *Hollywood Squares*. He recently finished a run as Edna Turnblad in *Hairspray* on Broadway, a role he played in San Francisco prior to New York.

Mary Wilson, a founding member of the Supremes, will make her cabaret debut at the Plush Room Nov. 29-Dec. 11 in a

show titled *Up Close and Personal*. In addition to being one of the original Supremes, Wilson was the only member of the group who performed in all of its incarnations. Wilson told her story in the '86 bestseller *Dreamgirl: My Life as a Supreme*.

The Empire Plush Room is selling the five-show season as part of a subscription package before individual tickets go on sale. For more information call 885-2800 or go to empireplush-room.com. ▼

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Playing gay for pay

Making 'Happy Endings' come true

by David Lamble

Whatever my job title might be, what I find myself doing a lot these days is asking young, virile, straight actors to describe the first time they kissed a man — on screen, of course. It has become kind of a rite of passage for young actors to kiss guys on screen, right up there with doing soft-core photo-spreads modeling clothes they'd never actually wear. Mind you, the young dude I'm asking the question of this time is showbiz royalty, son of the late John Ritter, grandson of country-singing cowboy Tex Ritter.

Jason Ritter is happy to oblige, but he concedes that his first boy-kiss on the set of the new Don Roos comedy *Happy Endings* was quite a bit less dramatic than the moment he locked lips with Maggie Gyllenhaal. Gyllenhaal is Jude, a young woman who embarks on simultaneous affairs with a rich guy, Frank (Tom Arnold), and his gay son, Otis (Ritter). Like screwball comedy genius Preston Sturges, Roos is interested in the comic fallout when a young woman seeks to better her situation by complicating the lives of folks above her on the social food-chain. In Roos' case, the young vixen often finds herself deliberately thwarting that sacred moment when the boys are supposed to kiss.

With a Don Roos film, the plot summary alone can weigh in at the length of a Victorian novel, but boy can the guy write! *The Opposite of Sex* is probably the best queer comedy of the '90s. Now, after a one-film slump with a movie featuring the incredible shrinking star power of Ben Affleck, Roos returns with another funny one. With *Happy Endings*, Roos deftly raises the comic stakes, overlapping the stories of 10 lonely people with agendas beyond their own understanding: Lisa Kudrow as a middle-aged woman dreading a meeting with a son she gave up for adoption; Jesse Bradford as a would-be indie director who demands, at gunpoint, to be allowed to film Kudrow's reunion with her son; Bobby Cannavale as a suspiciously documented Mexican immigrant who gives full-body massage to satisfied female clients; Steve Coogan, David Sutcliffe, Laura Dern and Sarah Clarke as two queer couples whose friendship implodes over the question of sperm-donor paternity.

With all these shenanigans equaling the plot complications of three films, how could a simple male/female love scene be all that interesting?

Ritter says he was trying to inject some physical comedy into the role of Otis, on the theory that a young gay boy's inner travail might be nicely illustrated by a series of young, puppy-like fum-

blings. "Off-camera, I bumped Maggie Gyllenhaal in the teeth really hard when we were supposed to be making out. She started to bleed a little bit, and I felt horrible. It was like one of those horrible first-date stories, but with a camera crew. She was like, 'Just keep going, it's fine, don't worry about it!' Luckily, it was supposed to be an awkward scene."

Co-star Jesse Bradford was instantly taken with Roos' script. "When I got to my character Nicky, it was just love at first sight. This kid was such a doofus, he had so many problems, yet somewhere in there he really means well. Don actually pointed out to me that Nicky's the only character in the whole story who never tells a lie. I thought that was interesting, because he is one of the bigger fuck-ups of the story."

Bradford at 26 has been working in the business longer than many colleagues twice his age — his screen debut, in a TV spot for Q-tips, was filmed when he was eight months old. He saw Nicky as a poseur, one of those weirdly conflicted characters that are a trademark of Roos' twisted comic imagination. "I saw him as a guy who maybe moved to LA a couple of years ago, got a crummy apartment. He was going to be an actor and that never really worked out for him, so he thought he could be a rock star, then he realized you got to learn how to play an instrument. So the next career was



Lisa Kudrow and Jesse Bradford: overlapping stories of 10 lonely people.

maybe filmmaker. He has a lot of enthusiasm, but very little of it based in reality."

Faux gay

Jason Ritter didn't pursue the acting game from the crib. He never met grandfather Tex, and stresses that his father made sure he had as normal a childhood as possible for the son of one of TV's biggest stars (John Ritter's running gag in ABC's *Three's Company* was to pretend he was gay and thus uninterested in his two busty female roommates). Ritter learned a valuable lesson from watching his father shift gears late in his career. "My dad was on a show called *Hearts of Fire* with an actor just starting out named Billy Bob Thornton. They made each other laugh so hard. Eventually, Billy Bob made *Slingblade*, and he gave my dad this part most directors wouldn't have trusted him with. It

was really an amazing, heartfelt, yet still funny performance, and it breathed new life into what he was able to do from then on: meaty roles in *Manhood*, *Tadpole*, *Man of the Year*. Then it was also nice for him to go back to a sitcom and have as much fun as he did with *8 Simple Rules*."

Ritter combines his father's comic instincts with his grandfather's folksiness, a guileless sincerity that informs his hapless screen character. Otis is addicted to male porn, afraid his father will disown him for being gay, yet determined that Gyllenhaal's scheming tart won't fleece the old man under the cover of vanquishing Otis' "hetero virginity."

It helped that he was playing a gay kid who's still working out his identity. "I've always gravitated towards characters who aren't so sure. For Otis, it was just a matter

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Ismail Merchant

remembered

by David Lamble

The sudden, unexpected death of Indian-born film producer Ismail Merchant, whose name was seldom uttered without that of his lifelong artistic partner, director James Ivory, has inspired some heartfelt recollections from members of a younger generation of collaborators who were in some ways Merchant's spiritual grandchildren.

Merchant, whose decision to abandon his stodgy background in banking for the riskier trade of cinema midwifery to great writers (Henry James, E.M. Forster, V.S. Naipaul), found his film partners Ivory and novelist-turned-screenwriter Ruth Praver Jhabvala while traveling to the Cannes Film Festival in 1961. The trio would later so put their stamp on the genre of literary screen adaptations that *New York Times* film critic Vincent Canby would opine that "it's time for legislation decreeing that no one be allowed to make a screen adaptation of a novel of any quality whatsoever if Merchant, Ivory and Jhabvala are available. Trespassers should be prosecuted, possibly condemned, sentenced to watch *Adam Bede* on *Masterpiece Theatre* for five to seven years."

Actor Jesse Bradford, in town recently to promote his work in the Merchant Ivory film *Heights* — which Merchant insisted be shot in New York as the company contribution to the city's post-9/11 recovery — has fond memo-



He was a mentor to young film folks.

ries of Merchant helping him negotiate the tricky transition from an actor doing teen roles to a performer embarking on an adult career. "I worked with him when I was 19, on *A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries*, and the pairing of him and James Ivory is one of the favorite professional experiences I've had."

Bradford alluded to Merchant's famous temper, often displayed in open artistic and financial fights with Ivory. "He was the kind of guy who fought really hard for what he wanted, and had a bit of a reputation of being a hard-ass, ruling with an iron fist. There was the occasional tantrum or don't-take-no-for-an-answer attitude that would rub the wrong way, or gain him a reputation: 'Watch out,

page 41 ►

Speech drafts, appointment books, and photographs tell the story of the first openly gay man elected to the SF Board of Supervisors. Harvey Milk represented people formerly silenced and ignored, and the adoration caused by his assassination galvanized the international LGBT community as never before.

This symbol of the LGBT community's emergence as a political force is just one of the many tales brought to life.

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FILM

Cheerful survivor

The career of Debbie Reynolds

by Tavo Amador

Professionally and personally, Debbie Reynolds is a survivor. The former Miss Burbank made her film debut in 1948 and still works regularly in clubs, TV, and movies. She earned tremendous public sympathy when first husband, singer Eddie Fisher, left her for Elizabeth Taylor in '59, one of old Hollywood's greatest scandals. Second-husband, wealthy shoe magnate Harry Karl squandered his and her money, leaving her with huge debts, which she paid off. A third marriage ended in divorce. Her Nevada casino and showroom failed. Daughter Carrie Fisher wrote a celebrated memoir about their relationship, *Postcards from the Edge*, superbly filmed with Shirley MacLaine playing Reynolds. Reynolds told old friend MacLaine, "Just make me funny."

Among the last of Hollywood's studio stars, her sense of humor is outrageous, quite different from the wholesome image MGM created. Her superb comic skills have only recently been exploited by films and TV, but are familiar to audiences who have enjoyed her countless nightclub and concert appearances. She's coming to the

Castro Theatre on Friday, July 22, in what should be a memorable evening from Marc Huestis Presents.

Born ('32) Mary Frances Reynolds in El Paso, Texas, her working-class family moved to California when she was a child, settling in Burbank. Her beauty contest win resulted in a Warner Bros. contract and an uncredited bit in a poor Bette Davis comedy, *June Bride*. Two years later, she was *Sweet Rosie O'Grady's* kid sister, then dropped. MGM signed her, and she scored playing '20s star Helen Kane in *Three Little Words*, although her singing was dubbed. She got more favorable attention singing "Abba Dabba Honeymoon" with Carlton Carpenter while having *Two Weeks with Love* ('50), but got stuck with *Mr. Imperium* ('51), a Lana Turner vehicle that tried to make a film star of opera's Ezio Pinza.

Studio head Louis B. Mayer made her the ingenue in the brilliant *Singin' in the Rain* ('52), despite objections from star Gene Kelly. Reynolds understood Kelly's concerns, she was still an "amateur." But Mayer proved right: she was pretty, warm, and appropriately skeptical. Her dancing was excellent, and she sang vivaciously — easily her best movie. She was a bright spot in the mediocre pic-

tures that followed: insisting *I Love Melvin*, enjoying *The Affairs of Dobie Gillis*, and pleading to *Give a Girl a Break* ('53).

RKO borrowed her for an amusing May-December romance with Dick Powell, *Susan Slept Here*, which did well. She was Jane Powell's sister in *Athena* ('54), then *Hit the Deck*, a lively musical with good songs. She was amusing setting *The Tender Trap* for Frank Sinatra as a starlet focused on marriage ('55). She excelled as the unlikely daughter of Davis and Ernest Borgnine in *The Catered Affair*, engaged to hunky Rod Taylor, her first drama. Reynolds and new husband Fisher found *A Bundle of Joy* ('56), an abandoned child — poor, but a hit.

Her popularity was confirmed with the smash *Tammy and the Bachelor* ('57), a saccharine romance about a backwoods girl that gave her a hit record. She had *That Certain Feeling* ('58), asked priest Bing Crosby to *Say One for Me*, claimed *It Started With a Kiss*, and met Glenn Ford in *The Gazebo* ('59), a comedy-murder mystery. In '58 and '59, she was among the 10 top box-office stars, and remained dignified when the Taylor-Fisher affair made headlines. She and Tony Curtis ran *The Rat Race*, a good melodrama, and she guested in *Pepe* ('60). As her



At the height of her Hollywood fame, she was hit by a tabloid scandal.

father, Fred Astaire offered *The Pleasure of his Company*, interfering with her plans to marry handsome Tab Hunter. It's a charming comedy set in San Francisco. She found love *The Second Time*

Around ('61), a poor rural comedy, then guested in the all-star smash *How the West Was Won* ('62).

Warners made her *Mary, Mary* page 30 ►

Debbie interview

◀ Arts cover

film out of affection for her. "Elizabeth was in great pain, barely ambulatory, but she wanted to help Carrie. She made it for very little money."

Did Gene Kelly, who objected to Reynolds co-starring in the immortal *Singin' in the Rain*, ever comment on her performance? "I was doing *Irene* on Broadway in '72, and one evening after the show, Mr. Kelly came to my dressing room. He put his arm around me and said, 'Well, kid, you did great.'" Reynolds was chosen for the role by MGM mogul Louis B. Mayer despite never having danced before. She took lessons for "nine or 10 hours a day for six months" to get ready. Obviously, she had innate ability, because her dancing is fine. "Talent can be brought out by great teaching. I had great instructors: Carol Haney, who would later star in *Pajama Game*, and Ernie Flack."

What was it like playing the daughter of Bette Davis and Ernest Borgnine in *The Catered Affair*? "The director, Richard Brooks, thought I was a no-talent Hollywood fly-by-night. He picked on me all the time. Bette was wonderful. She'd call me into her dressing room and say, 'Don't let him get you down. We'll get through this.'" And Borgnine gave her great advice. "Don't act it. Be it." Reynolds' performance got terrific reviews.

Re Joan

In her autobiography, Reynolds wrote sympathetically about Joan Crawford. "She was a very strong, powerful woman. Warm-hearted, thoughtful, generous, humorous and sophisticated. A grande dame and an actress who gave some great performances. She should be remembered for her strengths. Everyone has failings. It's terrible that she's remembered for *Mommie Dearest*.

I knew her as a friend, and she was lovely. Her last years were very lonely, wouldn't see people. I'd call her whenever I was in New York and ask her to lunch or dinner. She'd decline. 'Thank you so much, Debbie, darling, but I'm not feeling well.'" Reynolds' imitation of Crawford is flawless. "She didn't want to be seen not looking her best. I think she willed herself to die. Bette's last years were also very difficult and sad."

One of Reynolds' most under-appreciated performances is in *What's the Matter With Helen?* ('70), in which she co-starred with Shelley Winters. Reynolds found the property and produced it, planning to call it *Best of Friends*. "Otto Preminger was making a movie with that title. I sued, but lost. So it went out with the new title, and the studio didn't promote it." What was working with Winters like? "Shelley is a tad to the wind, and nearly killed me in real life during filming. I barely escaped alive."

How did it feel watching MacLaine play her in the movie version of daughter Carrie's *Postcards from the Edge*? "It wasn't really me, except for my loving to perform at parties. I've never been addicted [to alcohol or drugs]. I wanted people to enjoy it." Turning serious, she adds, "Carrie was born with manic depression. You can live with it, but it's tough, a curse. She's very funny, very gifted. I'm very proud of her."

She performs her one-woman show 40 weeks a year, and has found a new generation of admirers playing Grace's mother on TV's *Will & Grace*. "I've signed for two episodes next year. Wonderful people. Funny program." In '69-'70, she had her own series, but objected to cigarette companies as sponsors. "The network promised they wouldn't. My generation smoked its brains out, but we didn't know better. I didn't want to say it's OK to young people." The series was cancelled amidst lots of publicity. In a way, she's sorry. "Had the se-

ries gone into syndication, I'd have a lot more money today!"

Reynolds was also ahead of the curve collecting classic Hollywood memorabilia, which she purchased at studio auctions. They were "throwing away history. How dumb! There's a Hall of Fame for Bowlers, but no Hollywood Museum!" Thanks to Reynolds, there will be one next year, in Tennessee, near Dolly Parton's "Dollywood." Her son, Todd Fisher, has been working on this project. It will make sure people "don't forget Crawford, Davis," and other legends.

Is success easier or harder today without the studio system? "Much harder. The studios did everything for us. Trained us. Featured us in movies with established stars. They built us up." Sometimes, the system failed, as with Judy Garland. "I miss her so much. There was no one better. She could do everything: sing, dance, play comedy, drama. She was so funny! I resent she died the way she did, totally broke. The studio [MGM] killed her."

As for Hollywood and women today, "They don't let you get older. Instead of being revered and respected, they way it is in England, you're discarded. Youth is everything." She will be admired by her British fans later this year, when she takes her one-woman show to England for six weeks. "I do imitations of Davis, Hepburn, Dietrich, Streisand."

She recently turned down *Legends* on tour opposite Joan Collins. James Kirkwood's drama about rival stars was performed years ago in San Francisco with Mary Martin and Carol Channing. Kirkwood had written the part Martin played for Reynolds. "They insisted on eight performances a week. It's an intense play, and that's a heavy schedule. Linda Evans will co-star with Joan, which should be great." Instead, Debbie Reynolds will be having a good time making audiences laugh. ▼

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Tropical Malady

◀ Arts cover

mostly in Isaan, Thailand's Northeast, where the Bangkok-born Joe grew up. While even the smallest characters are memorable, the main story is about the affection of a soldier, Keng (Bonlop Lomnoi), for Tong (Sakda Kaewbudee), an illiterate, jobless, gap-toothed (but fetching), recently discharged army recruit.

Despite their obvious mutual attraction and affection, Keng is direct if bumbling in wooing Tong, whereas Tong is far more conflicted. Their growing sexual attraction culminates in a prolonged moment when Keng licks the hands of Tong, who has just pissed *al fresco*. After some excruciating hesitation, Tong reciprocates with an oral mauling of Keng's hands, after which he walks off into the jungle night.

In the second part, Tong has been possessed by a tiger spirit (that may be killing local villagers and their livestock), and Keng goes in search of him for reasons that go beyond the public-spirited. This part of the story is openly based on a Khmer folktale, and a voiceover provides some of the final hour's very few words (including these to Keng: "The tiger trails you like a shadow. His spirit is hungry and lonely. You are his prey and his companion. Kill him to set his spirit free.") After a savage, sexually charged mutual pursuit that lasts most of the almost unbearably tense second hour, the two reach a new kind of relationship it would be unfair to dilute.

"For me," Joe said, "they are merged, or disappeared into the wind. They become spirits, or they



Tong and Keng's excellent adventure: Thai soldier and recently discharged army recruit have a thing going on.

become just a representation of one of the little folktales that exist in the virgin [jungle] landscape. They are just dust in the universe."

Different takes

When I ventured an observation that the film's two halves seemed like fundamentally the same story, with a daytime, conscious version followed by a nocturnal, mythical one, the director responded, "I'd say they are connecting stories. Even though they are different, they have to co-exist to be meaningful. People have different takes on these two halves in combination. So I try to say less and absorb, appreciate the takes."

In the month between *Malady's* Cannes Jury Award and its moviehouse run, the Thai Culture Ministry went ape on a range of anti-gay issues, in particular decrying the representation of gays in the media, especially on television. Everyday Thais, who compulsively watch network TV comedies, game and talk shows, expect gays — especially cross-dressing "lady-boys" — to provide most of the comedy. They must have thought the condemnation, well, queer. Still, the Ministry's edicts were dark.

So is the homoeroticism in *Tropical Malady*, which steers wide of stereotypes. While the movie

drops plenty of clues that both main characters are familiar players in the arena now referred to as men-having-sex-with-men, nothing suggests that they are having an innocent idyll. Awkwardness and pain abound, alongside almost unbearable sweetness.

While Joe is content with the film's being labeled "gay" if it helps the marketing, he claimed, "I just made a film about two people, about attraction and the law of nature, and how human beings are (sometimes blissfully) trapped. It can be seen as being about repressed or forgotten memories. It can be about unfulfilled emotions. Sex is the subtext.

"I think Thailand is pretty tolerant of homosexuality. In relation to the modern gay rights movement, I think it is not that bad."

Two of the most stunning things about *Malady* are its cinematography (which, in the second part, makes the jungle as much a character as the men) and the acting, which is mostly by amateurs, including Keng and Tong, who give riveting performances. Joe's reasons are many: "They are less expensive, and can give me more time than most professional actors." But one reason is most telling to anyone who has spent an evening with Thai television or been to a "regular" Thai movie. "They are fresh and do not stick to a style of acting that comes from Thai television. I can get them to absorb my kind of acting more easily than professional actors." A gentle, funny man, Joe recently lampooned traditional Thai cinema style with his own film, *The Legend of Iron Pussy*. It's big-heartedly good-humored and only technically envelope-pushing.

Just before the break in *Tropical Malady*, a bar brawl spills into a street. When I asked Joe if it was a gay-bashing, he first said no. Then, "I don't know if the incident is gay-bashing. That was not the point. Life is so wonderful when you don't have all the information. A perfect chair is unappealing. When you see dents or scratches, you know that it has history. Even though you don't know what caused the dents, you know it is real, not a prop for commercials. It is like the happiness when you travel to another land. You don't understand many things in the culture."

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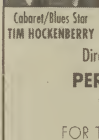
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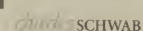
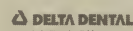
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Reynolds career

◀ previous page

from Jean Kerr's play, but critics disliked it, and they found *My Six Loves* ('63) too cutesy. Neither did well, but when MGM couldn't get MacLaine, they gave Reynolds *The Unsinkable Molly Brown* ('64), from Meridith Wilson's Broadway success, and a smash: she earned an Oscar nomination. She followed with *Goodbye, Charlie*, about a womanizer reincarnated as a female who thinks he's still male, in which she is good, but it failed, as did *The Singing Nun* ('66), with another MGM alumna, Greer Garson, as Mother Superior.

She was one of several stars facing *Divorce, American Style* ('67), a fair comedy, but *How Sweet It Is* ('68) wasn't. After a brief TV series, she wondered *What's the Matter with Helen?*

('71), stealing the horror film from Shelley Winters. She provided the voice in *Charlotte's Web* ('73), successfully revived *Irene* on Broadway, introduced a segment of *That's Entertainment!* ('74), played TV and clubs, returned to the big screen moving *Heaven and Earth* ('93), then triumphed as Albert Brooks' hilarious Mother ('96). Next year, she was stiletto-sharp playing Kevin Kline's mom watching him go *In and Out* of the closet. She was in the little-seen *Zack and Reba* ('98), then scored on TV as Grace's funny mother on *Will & Grace*, and notably in *These Old Broads* (2001), with MacLaine and Taylor, written by daughter Carrie. She is currently in pre-production for *Fingers Walking*.

It's unlikely she'll retire, she enjoys performing. A consummate professional, Reynolds' terrific comedy skills deserve to enhance more movies and TV shows. ▼



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Damien Nguyen (Binh), Chau Thi Kim Xuan (Mai) and Bai Ling (Ling) in *The Beautiful Country*.

O Beautiful

'The Beautiful Country's voyage from 'Nam

by David Lample

Norwegian director Hans Petter Moland has a fine knack for depicting the complicated baggage that can connect a grown-up child to a difficult parent. In his previous feature, *Aberdeen*, Moland provided a riveting tale of a pissed-off adult daughter's ever-evolving relationship with a totally irresponsible and virtually irredeemable alcoholic father. Sparing us all clichés and with no 12-step programs to catch the man when he falls, Moland showed us how heart-breaking and sometimes necessary it can be to reach out to a parent who hasn't a nurturing bone in his body. *Aberdeen* provided a very darkly humorous glimpse at the worst of all father/daughter relationships as they meandered northward towards a meeting with a dying wife/mother.

Moland's latest feature, *The Beautiful Country*, perversely raises the stakes for an almost impossible family reunion as a biracial Vietnamese teenager travels halfway across the world to find his American GI biological father (Nick Nolte). The first title-card informs of our hero's fundamental problem, the reason he must leave Vietnam and endure unimaginable hardships, including the loss of his birth-mother, half-brother and a woman he had started to identify as a lover. Unusually tall, almost gangly by Vietnamese standards, with a face that all around him consider ugly, Binh is considered "Bui doi," or "less than dust," because he reminds many of the former hated enemy.

Forced to flee a small village when his foster mother decides to marry, Binh starts his monumental journey on a grace note, a pit-stop at a luxurious urban household where his birth-mother slaves

away, working for a mother/son duo that even Cinderella would have parked her pumpkin miles away from. Fate dealing him a series of blows, Binh's luck goes from bad to worse as he is driven to flee in a small boat that leads to a Malaysian refugee camp, and finally to a tramp steamer carrying human cargo to America for a steep price.

The ship is initially run by Snakehead, a greedy, pitiless human trafficker who instantly quadruples the price of the voyage for Binh, his tiny half-brother and Ling, a beautiful but desperately pragmatic Chinese-born prostitute determined to ply her trade in the big-rock-candy-mountain of New York. Life aboard the ship is marked by boredom and enlivened by fights over food and water that turn lethal when half the provisions are ruined in a typhoon-like storm.

Tim Roth has a nifty supporting role as a heartless sea captain who constantly taunts Binh about his impractical dream of reaching America, and his unwillingness to buckle under to authority. "You have an independent mind. Some people admire that. I don't." The captain is ruthless towards people he doesn't admire, and Binh is lucky when the ship, more rust than boat, finally drops the survivors on a New York beach.

Vietnamese American actor Damien Nguyen, himself descended from a family of boat people, is quietly riveting as a young man scorned by virtually all those he encounters. Moland's direction is steady, letting us see the stark beauty of an uncaring world as it passes by this almost-drowning man.

Pop 101

The title *The Beautiful Country* has a pointedly ironic weight, referring to both Binh's former and future home countries. Sabina

Murray's script doles out the crosses Binh has to negotiate without pity, but also without excessive melodrama. There are flashes of humor—onboardship, the future Americans while away endless hours playing a game testing their pop-culture IQs. You can't imagine how important it can be to know the significance of such pop effluvia as T-Bird, Grand Canyon, or Clint Eastwood. Their arrival in New York is greeted by a transistor radio blaring Gotham's oldest all-news station.

Director Mollan, who served a film apprenticeship in America in the '70s, tops his visuals with other ironic baggage, including a brief glimpse from director Oliver Stone's *Wall Street*, with its Gordon Gecko stock shark intoning an American credo, "Greed, for the lack of a better word, is good."

Ultimately, the film's redemption in the form of one of the most poignant father/son reunions in film. These scenes will renew your belief in humanity, as well as provide fresh testimony to the remarkable durability of the acting career of Nick Nolte, himself a veteran of that great Vietnam-themed film adventure, *Who'll Stop the Rain*.

In an odd way, this journey with the world's most stoic protagonist resembles a deeply human version of the new nature hit *The March of the Penguins*, as Binh demonstrates how human beings are, at their core, tribal. *The Beautiful Country* is based on an idea by the film's producer, the legendary Terrence Malick. The film may revive old passions and hackles from all sides of the debate on the war in Vietnam, as well as more recent wars. It may also challenge some in the progressive community to re-evaluate the prize that an America still holds out for a world so mired in the vicious rituals of ancient caste prejudice. ▼

Happy Endings

◀ page 28

of injecting my own issues and uncertainties. The gay issue never really came up. I didn't feel the need to overdo that side of it. I allowed the more feminine aspects of my personality to come out just a little bit. As for kissing the guy at the end, we were like, 'Here we go.' There was one tactile difference between kissing his screen

boyfriend and kissing Maggie Gyllenhaal. "The stubble kind of hurt. Now I understand that whole thing of, 'Please shave.' Stubble on stubble was very painful. Then Don kept making jokes like, 'Cut, cut, cut! Didn't you hear me!' like he couldn't stop us.

"A kiss is a kiss. Neither of us made each other feel weird. We were supposed to be people who love each other, so we pretended we were."

When Tex Ritter was still new to the business, he spotted Gary

Cooper in downtown L.A. Ritter, whose acting was mostly confined to B cowboy films where the hero was almost expected to kiss his horse, stuck out his hand and greeted Cooper like another fan. Years later, Ritter's soulful rendition of "Do Not Forsake Me, Oh My Darling" would aid Cooper's successful bid for a best acting Oscar for *High Noon*. As I shake hands with grandson Jason, I feel the presence of some very good genes and the pleasure of having done my job. ▼

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London calling over the airwaves

by Victoria A. Brownworth

We had prepared one of those light and frothy columns as befits July. Then July 7 happened.

Suddenly, the reality TV shows that have been flooding the tube since May receded, replaced with

images of mayhem and carnage. Of course, it's summer, so these images were all reruns: the smoke, the confusion, the ambulances, the bloodied, bandaged and burned bodies, some walking, some on stretchers. Men, women and children staggering about vacant-eyed and stunned, or sobbing hysterically. There was the same soundtrack, too: the whine of sirens, the staccato sounds of crying and screaming. Then a lull in which the normal noise of a city of nearly 10 million was quelled into an eerie, stunned silence.

Almost immediately the same scenes were replayed: The uniformed tending to the wounded. The brave souls able (and needing) to speak, talking to reporters, giving the play-by-play. "There was a huge bang, an explosion, the

sounds of metal tearing or crumbling. Then there was darkness. And smoke. And it was tremendously hot. Then the screams came, and we knew it wasn't just a transformer, it was something else."

The other rerun aspect, of course, was how we couldn't look away. "This newscast is over? Find another. Or just leave CNN on nonstop. But surf the channels anyway because there might be something new, something else, something more on another network, another cable station, another crawl across the bottom of the screen."

There was a sense of urgency in our searching, as if to watch was actually to know, as if to watch was somehow talismanic; as long as we see that it's still there, it cannot possibly be here. Not again.

Of course, it wasn't a rerun. There were new images: A leader who spoke immediately, with concern, to his people, seeming anxious for them and deeply shaken. Tony Blair didn't sit at the G8, then fly around on an airplane for hours trying to discern what to do. No hiding out in a bunker while others took the helm. Blair went home; then, when the nation knew someone was in charge, returned to the job at G8 of saving Africa from famine and disease.

The Queen, Prince Charles and Camilla all appeared at hospitals, visiting the wounded. The Queen gave a press conference, demanding of her subjects that they forge ahead, keep the stiff upper lip, they have been this route before and survived it. We wondered if she was thinking of her mother, the Queen Mum, going out into the streets of London during the Blitz and helping commoners. We would have liked to have seen the newsreel footage playing in her head as she spoke.

There was also that harrowing sight, the red double-decker bus, a symbol of London, mangled in the high street, its top portion peeled back like a sardine can. It's difficult to dispel that image.

There were the people themselves, so very stoic. Well before the Queen had exhorted them, they had determined on their own to plod onward, "bloodied but unbowed," as one headline noted.

Tube journal

We woke up on 7/7 to muffled NPR voices speaking in their usual earnest tones, but more urgently. We immediately clicked on the tube to Sheila MacVicker, our favorite London reporter, on CBS, relaying what was known at 6 a.m. EST, 11 a.m. London time: a handful of dead, about 100 injured. By day's end, those numbers would rise — in fact, at press time, continue to rise. More than 50 dead, more than 700 injured.

Not 9/11, but then the weapons used were just 10 pounds of explosives in four places. Not jumbo jetliners flown into buildings. If 9/11 was the big-screen version of destruction, this version was made for the small screen: fewer dead, fewer injured.

So why didn't we feel better? The aftermath has been similar. Scene after scene of men and women walking the streets of London putting up posters of the missing. The tearful, sleepless pleas to the TV cameras as time



Passengers leaving an underground train in a tunnel near King's Cross.

passes and the loved ones do not return, do not call.

One woman whose daughter was likely on the King's Cross tube in a subway car yet to be humiliated, demands of a reporter, "Why can't they just tell me she's dead? I can't bear the thought that she is dead, and no one will tell me. The waiting only to hear she's dead is just unbearable."

Her pain is almost too much to witness. We blink back the image of the mother who must have survived the Blitz as a child, only to lose her own to a new form of Blitz.

This is when TV is at its best: in crisis. The reporting of all aspects of 7/7 has been, for the most part, stellar. On the scene minutes after the attacks, in the aftermath, and in uncovering the history of those who likely plotted this obscene act. The coverage has measured that infinitesimally fine line between recording tragedy and wallowing in it.

Ted Koppel, who was sent to London by his German Jewish parents during World War II to escape the Nazis, grew up during the Blitz. On the 7/7 *Nightline*, he recalled how Londoners fled to the Underground to escape the terror of the Nazi bombing raids, but on the morning of 7/7, the Underground had become the site of terror.

On *Nightline*, on PBS' *Charlie Rose*, even on tabloid TV shows like *ET* and *Extra*, there have been extraordinary bits of humanity and grief.

Then again, former ABC news reporter and now FOX Washington bureau chief Brit Hume told Shepard Smith, "My first thought when I heard there had been this attack, and I saw the futures this morning, which were really in the tank, I thought, 'Hmmm, time to buy.' Others may have thought that as well. But you never know about the markets. Obviously, if the markets had behaved badly, that would add to people's sense of alarm about it. But there has been a lot of reassurance coming, particularly in the way that the Brits handled this, but also in the way that officials here [in the US] handled it. There seems to be no great fear that something like that is going to happen here."

Nearly 50 dead and more than 700 injured, and FOX reduces it all to the stock market? This kind of commentary goes far in explaining how FOX got its reputation for a lack of humanity and a hawkish spin to the news. "Time to buy?" Disgraceful.

Speaking of disgraceful, do the London attacks suggest that every time Pres. Bush, Vice Pres. Che-

ney, Sec. of Defense Rumsfeld and Sec. of State Rice declare on TV that Al-Qaeda is in its "death throes" (Cheney on CNN) and "has been decimated" (Rice on NBC), they are lying?

As we anguish over the numbers in London (50+, 700+), might we not register that every week in Iraq, an equivalent number of Iraqis are killed and injured by similar attacks? There is no one standing with a mic to record their horror, no one following those seeking the missing, no nonstop coverage. In fact, there is almost no coverage at all. To our media, the terror Iraqis face daily is somehow acceptable.

The image of America and England throughout the Arab world is of two nations engaged in the war on Iraq and annihilation of Muslims. Al-Jazeera and the Arab News Network do show the images of Iraqi maimed and dead, of bleeding in hospitals, of decimated neighborhoods. Write on their broadcasts is a different face of terrorism: ours.

A tragedy like 7/7 didn't erupt unbidden. Terrorism is being bred daily in Iraq, Syria, and Saudi Arabia. Its victims, as on 9/11 in NYC, 3/11 in Madrid, and 3/20 in Baghdad when "shock and awe" was begun, will be who they always are: innocents, ordinary men, women and children on their way to their daily lives. Girls going to school in Tel Aviv, boys playing near a mosque in Tikrit, workers going to their jobs in London. The blood shed, no matter whose, is tragic.

TV has the power to show us all the dead, not just the ones the networks think worthy. Every life is of value. That was a main topic at G8 prior to the bombings, saving lives in Africa.

Finally, courtesy of the tube, we have our quotes of the week. On Nov. 4, 2004, George Bush noted in a press conference declaring his narrow election victory a "mandate from the people" on the war on Iraq, "Imagine a terrorist network with Iraq as an arsenal and as a training ground."

In his speech at Fort Bragg on June 28, Bush asserted, "Iraq is the latest battlefield in this war. Many terrorists who kill innocent men, women and children on the streets of Baghdad are followers of the same murderous ideology that took the lives of our citizens in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania."

Add to that list London. Perhaps the Bush theocrats are correct. We reap what we sow. We now have 7/7 to add to our list of dates that will live in infamy.

Stay tuned. ▼

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BOOKS

Looney tunes and other favorites

by Jim Nawrocki

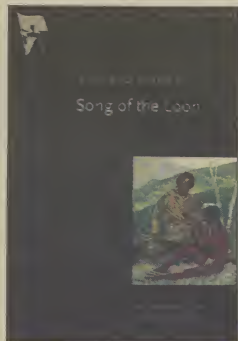
Song of the Loon by Richard Amory; Arsenal Pulp Press, \$15.95 trade paper

The Young in One Another's Arms by Jane Rule; Arsenal Pulp Press, \$15.95 trade paper

In recent years, there seems to have been renewed interest in early works of gay and lesbian-themed fiction, and numerous books about the genre have appeared. In 2003, Harrington Park Press published Anthony Slide's *Lost Gay Novels: A Reference Guide to Fifty Works from the First Half of the Twentieth Century*. Studies like Michael Bronski's *Pulp Friction: Uncovering the Golden Age of Gay Male Pulp* have helped explicate and provide a context for the unabashedly sexual paperback novels of the pre-Stonewall era.

Publishers have also been making many of these old titles available again. Cleis Press has been issuing new editions of John Preston's novels, and now Arsenal Pulp Press, a Canadian publishing house, is issuing attractive reprints of gay and lesbian fiction in its *Little Sister's Classics* series.

The first two titles under this imprint are Jane Rule's 1978 novel *The Young in One Another's Arms* and Richard Amory's 1966 book *Song of the Loon*. If these first two titles are any indication, the *Little Sister's Classics* series promises to offer a diverse array of queer-themed fiction selected not necessarily on the basis of literary quality alone, but also with respect to each book's cultural and historical significance. Each edition comes with an introduction by a contemporary gay or lesbian writer, as well as reprints of author interviews and other materials of interest to those who want to learn more about the books' creation and initial critical reception.



As Michael Bronski explains in his introduction to Amory's *Song of the Loon*, queer pulps not only helped generations of gay men and lesbians find a sexual outlet of sorts, they also, in many cases, provided stories that helped them attain some notion of community. While a majority of the pulps delivered on the promise of their lurid covers, some of them, like *Song of the Loon*, did that and more. Bronski points out that even today, the book is remembered fondly by gay men of a certain age (much as John Preston's *Mr. Benson* has attained cult status in the leather community).

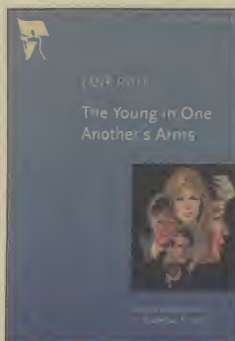
Amory's novel is an historically-themed gay fantasy that depicts 19th-century trappers, hunters and Indians living in a gay paradise among the wilds of the Pacific Northwest. In discussions about the book, Amory admitted that he adopted the style of 16th-century Spanish pastoral novels like Jorge de Montemayor's *Los Siete Libros de la Diana*. He also seems to have been influenced by Rousseau's ideal of the "noble savage." The protagonist of this strange novel, Ephraim MacIver, flees from the clutches of a cruel and controlling male lover and finds more than enough comfort among Indians and trappers who

live by the homoerotic, free-love code of what they call the "Society of the Loon." In Amory's world, men love other men without guilt, shame or apology. Amory also doesn't shy away from depicting interracial and intergenerational gay sex.

Though Amory's novel was groundbreaking for its treatment of gay themes, and even in light of the fact that he deliberately invoked the style of the 16th-century Spanish pastorals, it's hard not to read *Song of the Loon* today without laughing through most of it. The prose is often overwrought and melodramatic, and Amory's characters frequently break into recitations of erotic poetry celebrating their lovers' bodily attributes ("My eyes, my lips, my thirsting tongue./ Your eyes, your lips, your lovely cock," runs part of one verse). One can also question its politics. For all the sex that goes on between MacIver and a host of athletic, hunky and well-endowed Indians, it's something of a disappointment to see him end up with another white man in the end, even if the loin-clothed cuties are still available to him, and only a short canoe-ride away.

Rule book

If Amory's novel is more interesting and significant as an historical artifact than as fiction, Jane Rule's *The Young in One Another's Arms* is a mature and satisfying work that definitely stands the test of time. The book won the 1978 Best Novel of the Year Award from the Canadian Authors Association.



tion, and as Katherine V. Forrest points out in her introduction, it's a novel that embraces much more than the theme of lesbian love.

The story concerns a middle-aged woman, Ruth Wheeler, who is emotionally and physically wounded by an accident that claimed the life of her young daughter. She's also dealing with a separation from her husband.

With her own family life shattered, she opens a boarding house and attains a strange and demanding familyhood with her six boarders, an assortment that includes an American military deserter, a mentally retarded man, a pot-smoking musician, and three young women.

Rule's prose is marked by deft characterizations, wonderfully rendered dialogue, a strong sense of place (in this case, British Columbia) and succinct yet vivid physical descriptions. In this relatively short novel she manages to navigate and illuminate the lives and relationships of Ruth's six boarders, exploring not only Ruth's relationship with her mother-in-law, but the connections, indeed the community, that the boarders achieve with and through each other. If the *Little Sister's Classics* series gives other novelists like Rule their due, and provides a new understanding of curiosities like *Song of the Loon*, it will prove a valuable publishing project. ▼

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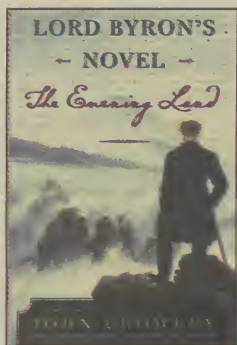
Of lords and ladies

by Robert Julian

Lord Byron's Novel: The Evening Land by John Crowley; William Morrow, \$25.95

In what can only be described as a bravura prose performance, John Crowley's latest novel, *Lord Byron's Novel: The Evening Land*, successfully combines 19th-century Gothic romance, mystery, feminist philosophy, and computer programming. Its heroes include the English Romantic poet; his only daughter, Ada, Countess of Lovelace; and a pair of 21st-century lesbian lovers (and scholars) who dedicate themselves to solving a mystery surrounding the possible existence of Byron's only novel.

Crowley elects a tripartite structure to tell his story. Chapters from Byron's "lost" novel are followed, sequentially, by his daughter's notes on the text, and then by e-mail correspondence between the two lesbian scholars and the estranged parents of one of the women. This seemingly convoluted methodology actually resolves



itself quickly into a compelling structure on which Crowley can hang his story. When he writes as Byron, his prose beautifully reflects the sort of style employed by the Brontë sisters, Jane Austen, and other 19th-century authors. If Crowley's fictional Bryon narrative were read by itself, ignoring the rest of the book, it would be a worthy and rewarding effort.

But the novel within the novel (*The Evening Land*) is pre-

page 34 ►

MARGA GOMEZ in

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directed by David Schweizer

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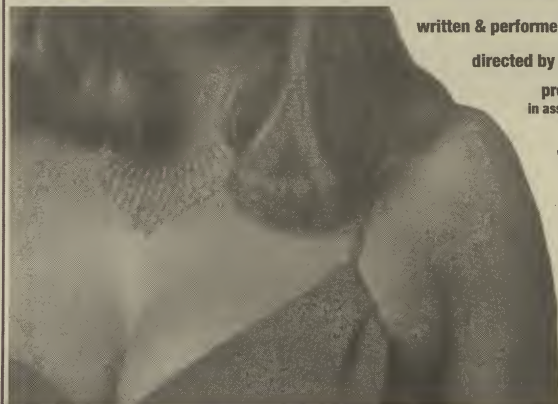
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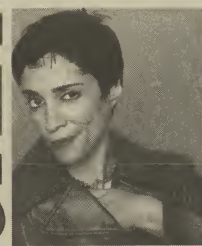
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The right composer for the right time

Dmitri Shostakovich out on disc for a troubled world

by Tim Pfaff

While never undervalued, Shostakovich's music has gained grim new relevance for Americans since the coup d'état of 2000. With his Fifth Symphony, a success at its 1937 premiere and probably his most-loved symphony ever since, the composer had to rehabilitate himself with the Soviet authorities on pain of probable death at a time of state denunciations, disappearances, and mock trials (any of this sound familiar?) that counted among its victims (by execution) his most highly placed protector in the government.

With the symphony's blazingly "optimistic," brass-and-percussion finale, he pulled it off, yet I've long wondered how, since the work's three preceding movements are so unrelentingly sad and creepy, breathing the dank air of the time if obediently turning away from the all-out, sardonic expressionism the censors found so threatening. Two superb yet extraordinarily different new live recordings under conductors who have "been there," Shostakovich's friend and colleague Mstislav Rostropovich (LSO Live) and Valery



Gergiev (Philips), make it plain that the composer saved his own skin without selling his soul.

Soulful is, for once, a precise word as applied to Rostropovich's reading of a year to the day before the recent London terrorist bombings. There's a sense of restraint in Rostropovich's interpretation, but of sound, not of feeling. Leading one of the world's greatest orchestras, he passes over every opportunity to show off and slips instead into the often-uneasy interior of this work he knows to its remotest corners.

If anyone is qualified to sensationalize this piece, Rostropovich is, but indications are that a lifetime's living with it has instilled in him a deep sense of its proportions that preclude any possibility of showing off anything but the

vastness of its interior spaces and the largeness of its heart. The return of the lilting flute with the principal theme at the end of the first movement's raucous interruption introduced by the piano shows what a jolt liquid solemnity can make.

Despite his Largo being a full two minutes shorter than Gergiev's, Rostropovich's way with this, the emotional core of the work (which reduced much of the audience to tears at its Soviet-era premiere), is every bit as involving. That's primarily because of the extreme, almost prayerful quiet that generally characterizes its dynamics. Consequently, the uproar of the concluding Allegro non troppo, with the LSO at full cry, makes its contrasting statement with less huffing and puffing. The hand of this deeply sensitive composer is the more audible thanks to the baton of a man who knew him and his plight, personally and for himself.

Leading his own Kirov Orchestra of St. Petersburg's Maryinsky Theatre, Gergiev gives a characteristically tauter, more incisive reading of the score — one that listeners who prefer hearing every detail of a score emerge with perfect polish and proportion, but also punch, will prefer. The danger in the air is always more palpable when Gergiev's around, and that's entirely apt in this symphony,



whose sheer beauties of theme and instrumentation have lured generations of listeners away from its darker meanings.

Although he wields a heavier stick than Rostropovich — the iron-fisted control he has over his superb ensemble lends this reading an eerie sense of the political domination and unrelenting pressure under which the composer wrote — Gergiev has an equally convincing touch in the music's lighter and more heartfelt passages. In any case, it's hard to imagine the contrasts being starker than they are in this trenchant, as often as not outright fierce, interpretation.

Dark shadows

If Rostropovich's Largo leaves a single, haunting impression, Gergiev's, at an almost polar extreme expressively, builds the movement's feeling out of a mosaic of details, each a moment of

musical perfection in itself, and the whole a brilliantly colored (if predominantly dark-hued) picture that burns its way onto listeners' memories. Not only does this Largo lack the sense of transitory repose Rostropovich gives his, it takes you to the limits emotionally. It's easy to imagine a listener today breaking down under the sheer intensity of almost any of its individual feelings, say nothing of their cumulative effect.

Similarly, there's an underlying bitterness in the finale that gives it a complexity that flatly disproves any notion that this is Shostakovich forcing a smile for the authorities.

The CD also includes Shostakovich's 1945 Ninth Symphony, a seldom-encountered piece that also shows the composer writing "real" music when he had promised to deliver a Beethovenian Ninth celebrating Soviet victory over the Nazis at the end of World War II. Its five short movements are almost ludicrously light, feel dangerously redolent of the "old" Shostakovich the composer was no longer to be, and together make a bravura spectacular Gergiev and his musicians quaff like a good vodka. The brilliant, go-for-broke, intermittently hilarious, sometimes deadly serious 2002 performance makes it the cinch if you don't know which Fifth to get. ▼

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Lord Byron

◀ previous page

sented as Lord Byron's construction of a highly autobiographical allegory. It greatly enriches the reading experience to have each chapter followed by the notes, which Crowley writes in the pen of Ada, Bryon's daughter. These notes illuminate the parallels between the novel and the poet's real life. The notes chapters are then followed by the 21st-century correspondence among those who are trying to unravel the mystery.

Ada was estranged from her father since infancy. On her deathbed, she acquires the manuscript for *The Evening Land*, which her mother orders her to destroy. Not wishing to contradict her

mother's wishes, she burns all but one page of the manuscript, but only after reducing the entire text to a numeric code. In the 21st-century, the numeric code and existing original page of the text fall into the hands of two lesbian scholars who ultimately realize what they have, and break the code.

Crowley not only focuses attention on Byron's brief and celebrated existence, but he simultaneously delves into the complex dynamics between fathers and daughters — especially those who are estranged. There is a great deal of hopeful optimism expressed regarding reconciliation and acceptance, across a narrative that spans three centuries.

The dramatic sweep of the novel is enriched by a series of quirky characters. The troubled

Bryon's relationship with his daughter has its parallel in the current relationship between one of the scholars and her father. Byron died as an exile in Greece; he never saw his daughter as an adult. And one of the lesbians is a woman whose divorced father is an American film director convicted of statutory rape and, like Roman Polanski, unable to return to his homeland. After a long silence, the father and daughter renew their relationship via e-mail correspondence regarding the Byron manuscript.

Lord Byron's Novel is the sort of book a reader can get lost in. It is much more than a beach read, because it demands more from the reader. But the rewards of Crowley's extraordinary prose and innovative structure make it well worth the effort. ▼

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Patrician, Portuguese, and pink

by Jim Nawrocki

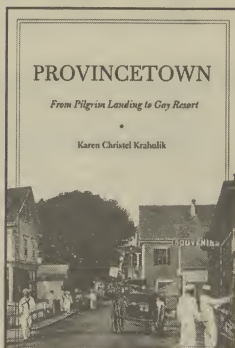
Provincetown: From Pilgrim Landing to Gay Resort by Karen Christel Krahulik; NYU Press, \$29.95 cloth

Karen Christel Krahulik's *Provincetown* is an ambitious attempt to write a history of a town that, however small, has had a complex history marked by dramatic transformations. From its Pilgrim past and patrician beginnings to its present status as a gay mecca, Provincetown has gone through significant growing pains. Krahulik's book offers a detailed chronology as well as a rather sophisticated analysis of the events and social forces that have shaped the popular seaside town.

In Krahulik's assessment, Provincetown is a place defined by

paradoxes. It's a quaint hometown that has become a magnet for tourists. It's a successful tourist destination that has, because of gentrification, had to contend with the displacement of the town's "old-timer" population. And it's a place of liberation (for immigrants, artists and queer people) that has ended up reproducing patterns of inequality and discrimination among its disparate populations.

Because it's one of the oldest communities in the continental United States, Provincetown has a rich history. The book is structured in three main sections that recount its "colonial" origins and immigrant influences, its survival and economic transformations during the years of the Great Depression and World War II, and its gentrification during the 1970s and beyond. Woven throughout



the history are the stories of the people from Provincetown's patrician, artistic, immigrant and queer populations who, through conflict and cooperation, have made Provincetown into what it is today.

In 2002, Peter Manso covered much of the same territory as Krahulik with his *P'town: Art, Sex, and Money on the Outer Cape*. While Manso's history is somewhat chatty, and focuses more on the stories of individuals and families from the Cape, Krahulik's is denser. In addition to being richly illustrated and copiously researched and annotated, it presents a large and comprehensive list of historical *dramatis personae*. At times, Krahulik's pages seem almost weighted down with facts.

Krahulik's history also reads much more like a scholarly work, and its analyses are often couched in the language of the academy. In describing Provincetown's unique social dynamics, for example, she writes: "As a community of likeness with a high threshold for deviation, Provincetown set out clear but permeable boundaries of

citizenship that included and excluded different people at different times." She also takes great care to define the terms she uses to describe Provincetown's gay and lesbian population, making a point to defend her use of the term "queer" as an "analytic tool."

Though much of the book is devoted to Provincetown's gay history, and to the conflicts and controversies brought on by the influx of queer visitors and residents, Krahulik also addresses the class, ethnic and other tensions that have shaped Provincetown's development. These are well-documented with several oral history interviews, and well as news reports from newspapers and other local sources. For all the difficulties and conflict that Krahulik discusses, though, ultimately her book is a portrait of a vibrant and evolving community. ▼

That '80s show

by Jon Sugar

Don't Dream It's Over: *The '80s Music Party Game* by Martin Joseph Quinn (Peter Cat Books, \$12.95) is stuffed with a walloping 1,000-plus questions to remind you that there's more to '80s music than what you usually hear on the radio. The author is queer — his previous book is a gay travel guide — and he includes lots of questions like, "What male superstar wrote 'Muscles,' Diana Ross' ode to buff boys?" and, "In what video does Elton John cavort with naked men covered in paint and leather-clad bellboys?"

Quinn also adequately covers hip-hop ("What Beastie Boys song references Magilla Gorilla, Chuck Woolery and 'Charles and Charge?')", alternative music ("What goth rock band was

named after a 20th-century design movement?") and lots of cheese we either relish remembering or have tried to forget ("What group tortured us with their over-the-top song 'Torture' in 1984?")

Quinn cleverly increased the value of the book by assigning points to each question, dividing the questions into 10 sets, and coming up with many versions of rules so the \$12.95 paperback could be used as a game, although it might be used more frequently for long road trips or short bathroom trips. Rather than lump all the answers at the end of the book, forcing readers to flip back and forth, each question page is efficiently followed by an answer page.

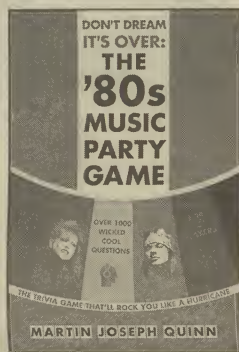
Many of the questions are quite difficult — most people can't name the Police song that references Nabokov's *Lolita*, for example, or care to name two Air Supply hits that begin with the let-

ter E — but there are enough softballs and multiple-choice questions thrown in that the casual '80s fan won't feel alienated.

The book makes for a great, inexpensive gift, and is a fun reminder of when the airwaves were dominated by lots of kooky, off-beat performers. Oh, and the answers to the aforementioned trivia? "Muscles" was written by Michael Jackson, the Elton John video is "I'm Still Standing," the

Beastie Boys song is "Hey Ladies," the goth band is Bauhaus, the Police song is "Don't Stand So Close to Me," and the two Air Supply songs are "Every Woman in the World" and "Even the Nights are Better." ▼

Martin Joseph Quinn will host a book release party at Magnet, 4122 18th St., on August 6, from 6-9 p.m.



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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare by Mark Mardon



Suppositori Spelling and Foxy perform to DJ Earworm at Bootie.

Finally Bootie!

It's been a long time coming, but I finally made it to **Bootie**, the happening club at Cherry Bar (917 Folsom at 5th), run by my pals and co-hosts **Adrian and the Mysterious D**, two divas who deserve the title, being the amazingly talented and super-glamorous duo they are. (Full disclosure: Adrian is the Art Director at this rag, which is why this section always looks lovely). Well known amongst the drag glitterati about town, and worshipped by veteran *Burning Man*-goers, Adrian & D do a great party. Adrian has always been our own David Bowie (though he's now beyond his Blue Period). The Mysterious D has always been... mysterious. And oh how they keep the energy up! I do so admire that. I'm not the party boy I once was (part time), but I still appreciate a great vibe when I feel it, and the *Bootie* energy inspired me to get out on the dance floor just as I've done since my days at the old I-Beam. Now a 50-something among the 20-somethings, I still thrill at great DJ sounds and soak up the energy of a sexy crowd. *Bootie* offers some of the best practitioners of the DJ art anywhere, producing stellar mash-up sounds. Adrian and D proudly, even defiantly, have declared their club to be the first mash-up scene in America—the origin being of course, London, from whence it was stolen.

I entered *Bootie* with a small flock of gay folk, and at first I thought we might be the only queers in a place packed with straights. Even Adrian & D were a little miffed that movie slut **Peaches Christ's** Saturday night "Midnight Mass" showing at the Bridge Theatre had stolen some of *Bootie's* audience. To be sure, before 11:30 p.m., the Cherry Bar was a straight mecca. But then the queers poured in, led by some of the cast and crew of *TV Land*, the drag happening at Theatre Tableau Vivant (see Thursday listing) where they're currently recreating Episode 4 from the original *Star Trek* series. Among the comers were **Jazzi Cappuccino**, who was still in character as Lt. Uhura of the *USS Enterprise*, and that statuesque beauty **Princess Kennedy**, one of the stars of *TV Land*. She was looking ever-so-seductive in a revealing outfit of flowing white fabric, something out of a Roman orgy scene, just before everyone starts lathering each other with scented oil. Also present was party promoter/celebrity hound **Aaron Dolson**, who as always looked the part of a carnival MC, all fancied up in his sexy Dude outfit, with the whole bar his audience. At midnight Adrian took to the stage and introduced the evening's new-drag act featuring superstar sensation **Suppositori Spelling** tangling with lanky studmuffin **Foxy** in a thrilling bondage sequence, performing to "The Night Of Kittin's Messy Dream," a mix by local bootleg/mash-up powerhouse **DJ Earworm** (djeeaworm.com). Afterwards Mysterious D and **Party Ben** spun for the masses, and the place was hopping with queers hot on the scent of one of the liveliest dance scenes in town.

Coming up on Saturday, August 13 at the Rickshaw Stop is the *Bootie 2-Year Anniversary Party*. The space, just around the corner from New Conservatory Theatre Center, can accommodate a larger crowd, and is considered very cool among the cognoscenti. For details visit www.bootiesf.com

Note to Ryan Phillippe

Dear Ryan, I'm not normally star struck, but I was taken by how naturally you took to playing the hand drum someone handed you in the big drum circle in Golden Gate Park last Sunday. You looked so handsome in your suit! Your group of young friends lolling on the grass seemed right out of a Monet painting. Aren't those drummers fantastic?! The circle keeps getting bigger and better. Hope to see you there again soon. I'm the one who plays pennywhistle. ▼



"Louis Vuitton Boutique" (installation view at Manolo Garcia Gallery), 2003, Mixed media, Dimensions variable, by Libby Black, part of "Bay Area Now 4". See Friday.

Fri 15

Bay Area Now 4 @ YBCA

Opening Night Party: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts presents "Bay Area Now 4" — The Visual Art Exhibition. René de Guzman, Visual Arts Curator. Berlin Golan, Assistant Visual Arts Curator. Bay Area Now 4 Visual Arts exhibition is a triennial survey of local talent. It gauges the temperature of the regional art scene by generating artistic activity and a dialogue about the Bay Area's significance as a cultural region. Bay Area Now celebrates artists who challenge conventional aesthetics and are leaders in the endless forming and reforming of contemporary artistic expression. It attracts international recognition for Bay Area artists, and is committed to displaying the most compelling work being produced in the Bay Area arts community today. Opening Party, July 15, 8-11pm. \$10 adv, \$12 door; free for YBCA Members +1 guest. Exhibition open to the gen'l public July 16-Nov. 6 (First Floor Galleries) and July 16-Nov. 25 (Second Floor Galleries). 701 Mission St @ 3rd. Info: 415-978-ARTS (2787); www.YBCA.org

IMAGINE The Mission

The Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts presents "IMAGINE The Mission", Photography Exhibition II, in Honor of El Tecolote Newspaper 35th Year Anniversary, commemorating 35 years of the history of the Mission District. The images represent the environment, the people, musical events, and moments that were controversial and turbulent. El Tecolote celebrated their first photo exhibit at the MCLCA in 1988, which depicted the neighborhood and works by Mission-based photographers. Opening Reception on Fri, July 15, 7-9pm with Music & Food. Donation \$5. Exhibition runs thru Mon., Aug. 22, 2005. Closing Event: Monday, August 22, 7-9pm, with Book Party & Interview with author Luis Rodriguez (Republic of East L.A.; Hearts & Hands). MCLCA, 2868 Mission St. Info: www.missionculturalcenter.org; www.eltecolote.org

A Sidewalk Astronomer

@ Roxie Cinema

A Sidewalk Astronomer, Jeffrey Jacob's documentary about the man who popularized astronomy. On any given night around the world, thousands of people peer into deep space because of John Dobson, born in China in 1915. His grandfather was the founder of Beijing University. His mother was a musician; his father taught Zoology. After completing a degree in Chemistry at UC Berkeley in 1943, Dobson moved to the Vedanta Monastery in SF in 1944, becoming a monk of the Ramakrishna Order. He was given the assignment of reconciling the teachings of religion with those of science.

He decided to see for himself what the Universe looked like. So Dobson built his first telescope in 1956 and became a "sidewalk astronomer." The film follows Dobson, now 89, as he tours the country from the streets of SF to colleges, astronomy clubs, star parties and to Sidewalk Astronomers, an organization he co-founded. Photographed, produced & directed by Jeffrey Fox Jacobs. Opens July 15. Showtimes: Nightly at 6:15, 8:00 & 9:45 with Wed., Sat. & Sun matinees at 2:30 & 4:30pm. Jacobs will be at the Roxie doing sidewalk astronomy Fri., Sat. & Sun., July 15-17. Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St. at Valencia. Info: 415-863-1087; www.roxie.com

Tina's Café @ Magnet

Tina's Café is a monthly social event for queer men who want to think about, talk about or do something about crystal use. It's their one year anniversary! Come by to meet Tina as you have never seen or experienced her! Tina will talk about how and why she does what she does. Sounds by DJ Steve Fabus. 9-11pm. Magnet, 4122 18th St. Info: [tweaker.org](http://www.tweaker.org)

Sizzle @ Femina Potens

Sizzle: Featuring film emu-hop MC Kats-trophe, acclaimed gender theorist Judith Halberstam, transgendered spoken word artist Julia Serano, queer spoken word / hip hop performer The Urban Hermit and a screening of Full Load, the xxx hardcore video from Fatale Media. no one turned away for lack of funds. \$5 or \$3 (if you sign up for the open mic; NOTAFLOF. July 15 at 8pm. Femina Potens, 465 South Van Ness.

Shadowplay @ The Stud

Shadowplay, the omnisequential indie, new wave, electro, and discopunk club. \$5 after 10pm, free before. 21+. Weekly on Fridays, 9pm-3 am. The Stud, 9th & Harrison. Info: shadowplaysf.com

SF Bisexual Discussion

Group @ The Center

San Francisco Bisexual Discussion Group. The Bay Area Bisexual Network (BABN) has created a new drop-in, mixed-gender, peer-led support group for bisexuals and our partners to discuss a wide range of topics affecting us in our daily lives. This is not a professionally led group and should not be used for counseling purposes. Also, this is not a "pick-up". Friday July 15, 6:30-8 pm (doors open 5:50). \$3-\$5 donation (NOTAFLOF). SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market (at Octavia), check the lobby board for room number. Contact Shell at group@babn.org

Leslie Feinberg

@ Women's Building

Leslie Feinberg, lesbian transgender activist and author of *Stone Butch Blues*, will speak on "Lavender and Red." Also speaking will be Nedjila Baguio, transgender prisoners' rights activist. Wheelchair accessible. Donation requested (NOTAFLOF). Sponsored

by Workers World Party. Friday, July 15, 7pm. Women's Building, 3542 18th St. at Valencia. Info: 415-561-9752.

Qpocalypse @ Proyecto

Contra Sida Por Vida

Qpocalypse, an event for lesbian, gay, bisexual, two-spirit, transgender, queer and questioning youth of color, 25 and under. art show/open mic. Visual art, performance, food, music and dancing. Free. Friday July 15, 7-11pm. 2973 16th St. @ Mission. Info call 415-777-5500 ex 311.

Sat 16

Terese Genecco/Drunk With Love @ NCTC

Opening night: The New Conservatory Theatre Center's 2005 In Concert Series, "Now and Then," presents Terese Genecco in the world premiere of *Drunk with Love—A Tribute to Frances Faye*, directed by Mark Gagné with musical direction by Amy Engelhardt. In a career that spanned much of the 20th century, from her Brooklyn debut in 1928 through her final bow in 1981, Frances Faye recorded more than a dozen albums for Verve, Capitol, Bethlehem and Imperial, and entertained generations of music lovers worldwide, and especially in San Francisco, one of Faye's favorite towns. To recreate that spirit, Bay Area Cabaret 2003 Entertainer of the Year Terese Genecco, backed by her "little big band," blends her own incredible talents with the wit, wisdom and wonder of Frances Faye. \$15-\$28. Previews July 14 & 15; runs July 16-Aug. 14, Fri-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm. NCTC, 25 Van Ness Ave. Tix: 415-861-8972; www.nctcsf.org

GenArt's 'Ignite!'

@ Ignite Lounge

GenArt invites you to the San Francisco debut of *Ignite!*, a multimedia extravaganza of new short films, media art and live performances celebrating Bay Area culture. Curated by Tony Labat (Chair, New Genes Dept., SF Art Institute); Lynn Hershman Leeson (A.D. White Professor, Cornell University); Jennifer McCabe (Program Director, New Langton Arts); and Shirley Shor (New Media artist). Juried film screening. Fire Dance by Copper Lantern Fire Theatre & Fire Pixie. Harlem Shake Burlesque. Urban Dance by Skorpio. DJ Donovan & Space Cowboys. \$35 (\$25 Silver Members). 8pm-midnight. Main Event: 6:30pm VIP Pre-Reception. 2255 Third St. (btwn 19th & 20th in China Basin). Info: www.genart.org

What the F@%K Happened to Tina? @ The Edge

Mark Paladini and The Edge present "What the F@%K Happened to Tina?" — The Anti-Crystal Meth Party, starring Jim Strano as Joan Crawford, Daddy Tony Koester as Baby Jane, and a little bitch named Tina. With MC Delada (the artist formerly known as Chablis), Selena Starr, Trailer Trash Trixie, Gina & Gina and other surprises. Loads of raffle prizes. Proceeds benefit the STOP AIDS Project and Castro Country Club. This is a party! No preaching to the choir! But the message is: crystal clear. Sat., July 10, 7-10pm. The Edge Bar, corner of 18th & Collingwood.

Thrive @ The LGBT Center

Thrive, a social group of guys who are gay and HIV+, breaking the isolation of HIV and not only surviving the disease, but thriving in spite of it. Donation. Sat., July 16, 1-3pm. Room Q13, 1st floor, SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. at Octavia. Email: thrive-subscribe@yahoo.com

Feasts & Follies @ New Hope MCC, Santa Rosa

New Hope Metropolitan Community Church presents "20 Years of Feasts & Follies," New Hope MCC's 20th Anniversary Dinner & Talent Show. Don't miss the fun! \$20 adv, \$25 at door. Sat., July 16. Doors open 5:30; catered dinner starts at 6pm. Info/tix: 707-526-HOPE (4673).

Strait-Jacket

@ 'Midnight Mass'

Peaches Christ tears up the house with the screening of *Strait-Jacket!* Plus a Joan-A-Palooza multi-media extravaganza awaits you! All things Joan, all night long featuring Joan videos, Joan performances, and more! Joan Crawford turns 101 years old this year and in honor of Peaches' all time favorite movie star we present Joan Crawford 101, lessons in all things Joan. Saturday July 16 Midnight. Landmark's Theatre, 3010 Geary Blvd. (3 blocks west of Masonic). Info: 415-751-3213; www.peacheschrist.com

The Hail Marys @ El Rio

The Hail Marys - first show in over 2 years, reuniting just for this show, Sistas in the Pit, Judea Eden Project, PlusZero, Becky Aur-solo acoustic. \$7 includes bba, door at 3, show starts at 4. Saturday July 16th 3-8 pm El Rio 3158 Mission St.

Karter @ Sugar

Sugar is sweet at The Stud. Resident DJ's Naz, Leonard and Jomal spin that deep house sound to penetrate your body & soul. Special guest Karter (www.getkarter.com) performs live gay trip/hop, titles from his album "The Down Low." Free b4 11pm; \$9



Lynee Breedlove brings her tale to the Dark Room. See Wednesday.

after. Open 10pm-4am. The Stud Bar, 9th & Harrison. Info: 415-252-STUD; www.sugarsof.net

Sun 17

Tango Crash Course @ Live Art Gallery

Live Art Gallery hosts a "Tango Crash Course" open to everyone, straight/gay friendly. No partner or experience needed. 2-4pm tango lesson. \$35 pre-registered; \$50 drop-in. 151 Potrero Ave. at 15th St. Info: 415-305-8242 (English); 415-995-7962 (Spanish); www.DanceCrashCourse.com

Mon 18

Left Coast Writers™ @ The Canvas

Left Coast Writers Present Foreign Shores: An Evening of Travel Stories. Left Coast Writers Marsha Black, Terry Hennessy, Mary Priest and Maxine Schur will read their traveler's tales, exotic and alluring, from places near and far. An evening of enticing travel stories in a setting that features intriguing art, fortifying libations, steamy coffees, and satisfying edibles. Left Coast Writers™ was created to support new and established writers in the production AND promotion of their work in a stimulating atmosphere of creativity and community. Monday, July 18, 7-8:30pm. The Canvas Gallery, 1200 9th Ave. Info: Canvas Gallery, 415-504-0060; www.leftcoastwriters.com

Tue 19

Comics Gone Wild @ Harvey's

Comics Gone Wild! Ronn Vigh (The San Francisco Treat) presents a bawdy, diverse evening of stand up comedy in the heart of the Castro. Pippi Lovestocking (San Francisco's favorite fierce comedic tranny tart) hosts. Special guests this week include Betsy Salkind, Janie Barbore, Nico Santos, and Kennie Yun. As always, Ronn Vigh headlines and hits the nearby sidewalks with his cordless microphone and big mouth.



Stargazer John Dobson is the subject of Jeffrey Jacob's documentary A Sidewalk Astronomer, screening at the Roxie Cinema. See Friday.

Drink Specials during show and full bar and menu available. Free. Tue, July 19 at 9:30pm. Shows every 1st & 3rd Tue. Harvey's, 18th & Castro.

Nao Bustamante & James Bewley @ New Langton Arts

"Live Art," featuring dark solo performances that tackle Hope and Expectation with sound and charade. Nao Bustamante's solo performance Let Me Incorporates universal symbols — witches, puppies — in a program that provokes audience members to consider the possibility of being saved by their own "hero." In Back to Life, James Bewley's alter ego Dale (one half of the defunct lounge/performance duo The Man/Woman Show) returns to the Bay Area to revive his abandoned career as an entertainer. Suited in late-'70s-era blue polyester with sepia aviator glasses, Dale tells nostalgic stories and sings lounge renditions of 80s-era pop hits. \$8 (\$6 members, students, seniors). 8pm July 19. 1246 Folsom St. Info/tix: 415-626-5416; newlangtonarts.org

Wed 20

D. Travers Scott @ Smack Dab/Magnet

Smack Dab, an open stage hosted by Kirk Read and Larry-bob Roberts. Featured performer: D. Travers Scott, born in Waco, Texas. Born-again as a Southern Baptist and neopagan teen psychic. His eclectic childhood fueled his diverse adult explorations of sex, storytelling, and masculinity. He is the author of the novel Execution, Texas: 1987, and Robert Glück calls his new novel, One of These Things is Not Like the Other, a "gorgeous existential mystery." First timers welcome. All ages and genders worshipped and adored. Please respect the five-minute limit. Wed., July 20, 7:30pm sign-up; 8pm show. Magnet, the gay men's neighborhood health center, 4122 18th St.

Bad Gays! @ Club Eros

One night only: "Bad Gays!" A Comedy Performance by Alan Reade (Bear-A-Go-Go!). "I have this fuck buddy who looks like Jimmy Kimmel...except with a really hot ass...." So begins Bad Gays!, Reade's latest comedy, with a crew of characters, all played by him, who discuss their lives while "doing time" in an urban sex club. Alan's characters go to the heart of what it means

to be sexual and beyond society's reach, at least for the hours spent inside the sex club. Is the only difference between "good gays" and "bad gays" the time of day? Performance preceded by Mz. J doing "Confession Concession," hearing audience members' sins, snack-bar style. \$5 donation. 18+ w/ID. 8pm. 2051 Market St. (near 14th, across from Safeway). Info: www.erossf.com

Edwin John Wintle @ A Different Light

Edwin John Wintle, author of *Breakfast With Tiffany*, about a successful, gay, urbane professional whose comfortable life at 40 is challenged when his street-wise 13-year-old niece Tiffany, a writing ball of adolescent anger, comes to live with him. Free. 7pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. Info: 415-431-0891; www.adl-books.com

Lynee Breedlove @ The Dark Room

Returning to the Darkroom is Lynee Breedlove's *One Freak Show, Less Rock, More Talk*, queer theory standup on transgender bodies, feminism, family, and community. His plan for world peace includes gender nesting dolls, cross-dressing stuffed animals, and a new edition of *Our Bodies Ourselves* for men. Jello Biafra and Michelle Tea loved it the first time around, and that was without SF director/playwright Bayla Travis directing. Breedlove is a San Leandro native and the rock star singer for local dyke punk band Tribe 8, author of the novel *Godspeed* (nominated for a Lambda Literary Award), co-host of K'vetch — the longest running queer cabaret and open mic in SF, a frequent feature at open mics and spoken word performances both nationally and locally, and is bringing cutting edge queer music and theory to the airwaves as a DJ on the Unika Lynee and Auntie Cindy show (pirate radio's answer to Rush Limbaugh on piratecraudio.com). Shows July 20 & 21 at 8pm, and 22 & 23 at 10pm. The Dark Room, 2263 Mission St. (btwn 18th & 19th). Tix/info: Darkroomsf.com

Thu 21

Photo San Francisco 2005 @ Ft. Mason Center

Benefit reception: Photo San Francisco 2005, created by art fair producer Stephen Cohen, will be held at the Festival Pavilion at Fort Mason Center from July 21-24. More than 80 galleries and private dealers will be present exhibiting and selling the finest photographic art ranging from rare 19th century photo experiments to the most progressive video/digital art. Exhibition hours are Fri. & Sat., July 22 & 23, 11am-7pm, and Sun., July 24, 11am-6pm. Thursday's opening from 6-9pm benefits Instituto Terra, a nonprofit organization helping to conserve & restore Brazil's threatened Atlantic rainforest. \$50 for opening reception; \$15 one-day pass; \$25 three-day pass (includes a catalog). Lectures & panel discussions \$10 (\$5 student discount). Info: www.photosanfrancisco.net

Amnesty Int'l: OUTfront @ ATA Gallery

Dangerous Living: Coming Out in the Developing World. Hosted by Amnesty International's OUTfront Program for LGBT rights. \$5. Thursday, July 21 at 8pm. ATA (Artists' Television Access) Gallery, 992 Valencia Street (at 21st).

TV Land does Star Trek @ Theatre Tableau Vivant

TV Land, in which live drag queens reenact favorite TV episodes, presents *Star Trek* episode 4: "Mudd's Women." Starring Laurie Bushman, Jazizi Cappuccino, Leigh Crow, Rocky Feldman, Franny G, Princess Kennedy, Jordan L'Moore, Julie Mitchell, Srinika Narayan, and Jeffrey G Simpson as Eve. \$15 at door. Thu.-Sat., July 21-23, two shows nightly at 8 & 10pm. Theatre Tableau Vivant, 574 Natoma (at 7th St.). Info: 415-621-8417; e-mail: jsimpsons@aol.com

Mattilda & D. Travers Scott @ Modern Times

Reading with Mattilda aka Matt Bernstein Sycamore (*Pulling Taffy; That's Revolting*) and D. Travers Scott (*One of These Things is Not Like the Other*). Free. 7:30pm. 888 Valencia St. Info: 415-282-9246.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

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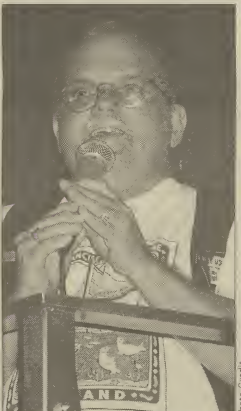
Catching up with summer

by Mister Marcus

Summer's here and pride events continue to dot the calendar for those seeking adventure, thrills, participation and support for events meaningful to individuals.

The International Leather Sir/boy organization was finally able to finalize a host hotel in Atlanta for the weekend of October 6-9. It's the Sheraton Atlanta, with weekend package-holders entitled to a room for \$119, but the catch is that you must have a confirmed weekend package confirmation number (\$139) in order to get the room. So first you must get the package by contacting: mike@leathersir.com and then call the hotel with your package confirmation number (404) 659-6500 and mention the "ILSb2005" rate. The hotel is in downtown Atlanta. For info on the hotel, surf to: www.sheratonatlantahotel.com. The judges for these competitions have not yet been announced.

This coming weekend, Lori Ellison will step aside from the International Ms. Leather 2004 title and "Izzy" will step aside from the International Ms. Bootblack title. The judges for IMsL this year are



Former SF Leather Daddy Peter Fiske was one of many who paid tribute to the late Robert Davolt at the celebration of Robert's life at Daddy's Bar on Sat., July 9th in San Francisco.



Northern California Leather Sir Tom Braddock, right, and No. Calif. Leather boy Phil Nickerson stepped aside from their titles last week. There will be no successors to the No. California ILSb Region this year.

Dossie Easton, Rik Newton-Treadway, Vicki Knight, Craig Heslop, Levi Halberstab, Tamara Parker and "Kayte". It should be a "hot" time in Omaha this weekend.

Meanwhile up at the Russian River in Northern California, "Lazy Bear Weekend" takes place with so many events scheduled in four days, it would be impossible to list them all here.

On Sunday, July 17, Folsom Street North is happening in Toronto, Ontario, so it looks like the leather community will again be on the move from almost coast to coast.

At the end of this month (Weekend July 29-31) the 2nd annual Canadian Leather Man and Canadian Leather Woman will be named in the contest being held in Montreal. The judges for that competition are: Paul Ciantar, Jayne Schmid, Lynn Bouchard, Giles Marchildon, Rainier Vietze and the head judge is David Kloss.

In other developments

The Gauntlet II in Los Angeles,

a long-running leather bar has changed hands. Ken Erickson steered the voyage for his bar for the past seven years, but on Friday, July 1, he handed the bar over to his long-time manager Charlie Matula and his partner Gannon with business partners Vince and John (no last names mentioned). Their press release stated: "We are keeping a lid on what plans we have, but you can expect to start seeing changes beginning this fall." One hopes they will continue the long, long tradition of

that venue.

Should Donna Sachet, "Sheba" and T.J. Istvan be worried about the fact that former San Franciscan, Ray Tilton (now married to a Canadian leather man and living in Toronto) has embarked on a "singing" career?

Mr. Tilton is performing "live" at Zippers Bar in Toronto on Monday, July 18 to benefit Theresa Group and Toronto PWA. We all knew that Ray could "yodel in the canyon" quite majestically, but

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Weekend, July 15-17

Lazy Bear Weekend up at the Russian River with scads of events to titillate you AND the natives. For info, email to: LazyBearWeekend@aol.com.

It's International Ms. Leather competition in Omaha, Nebraska. Host hotel is sold out. Judges named. No word on how many contestants!

In Toronto, Folsom Street North takes in that beautiful city on Sunday, July 17, but I'm sure there are other events taking place there that weekend.

Friday, July 15

Madame Estrella appears at The Exiles monthly gathering at the Women's Building, expounding on: "Running With Scissors: The Art of Hazardous Age-Play." You know the rules and hours. Parking is impossible.

Monday, July 18

World Premiere of Ray Tilton singing "live" at Zippers in Toronto to benefit local charities. I'll believe it when he gets a Platinum Record!

Weekend, July 22-24

Alameda County Leather Corps' "Mr. and Ms. Alameda County Leather 2005 Contest". Meet & Greet at the Turf Club on Friday, contest at the Hill & Valley Club in Hayward. Donna & Lenny will MC.

Wednesday, July 27

Leather Buddies at 933 Harrison. You know the rules; if not, call 777-HEAD.

Thursday, July 28

Troy Anicete's annual party at the Powerhouse from 2100 to whenever. Too much to list here...see text above.

Friday, July 29

San Francisco Leather Daddy XXIII contest at the Eagle with an \$8 beer/soda bust. At my deadline, two men were running for the title.

Sunday, July 31

Dore Alley Street Fair on Folsom St. between 9th & 10th and between Howard & Folsom Streets. If you've got it flaunt it. But if you flaunt it, expect to have it trashed!

PORN

Spangled and spunked

by John F. Karr

The individual elements of *Heaven to Hell* are so ludicrous that it's amazing the results are so libidinous. *H to H*, director Chi Chi La Rue's final movie for Falcon Studios, is a drag queen's dream of butch. Call it *Fallen Angel: Las Vegas*.

Chi Chi's appropriated the hook of an Angel reborn among the fallen (although this one falls so fast the movie might have been called *Foregone Angel*). Though a pentagram can't be trademarked, Chi Chi's taken the formerly macho *Fallen Angel* logo and covered it in, would ya believe it, rhinestones. Chi Chi's netherworld isn't the foreboding fire-and-brimstone Hades of *Fallen Angel*, but a high-concept, Hilton Flamingo kinda Hell. The movie is populated with the statuesque men of a showroom on The Strip — showboys with silly horns glued to their heads who preen in feathered anklets and wristbands, and twinkle in rhinestone-encrusted pendants, dog collars, loincloths, even eye-patches. It's a stretch to get behind a Devil, even one so damn sexy as Dean Monroe, who wears a rhinestone-covered jockstrap. This Devil presides over a Hell that is uncluttered yet somehow ornate beyond belief. The vast chambers are heavily draped, ringed with mirrors and lit by a thousand candles blazing from ornate braziers high atop blood-red columns. It's been filmed with a soft focus that throws a glitter of fairy dust across the décor. This Hell is sort of like the Phantom of the Opera's lair. And I mean that in the nicest possible way, truly — it's sumptuous, otherworldly, sensual. It's the aptly envisioned home of a



The Fallen Angel (Brad Patton) with the damn sexy Devil (Dean Monroe).

Devil who brandishes lust instead of laceration.

And so we are disarmed. The sets, costumes and plentiful glitz may be over the top, but they have elicited a sexuality in accordance. The story is pitched as an epic battle between the forces of Love and Lust,

Decency and Prurience — a regular Penis Armageddon. At the very

beginning, Josh Weston, playing the Devil's Soldier, captures the Angel, played by Brad Patton, who awakens to find himself in a Diana Vreeland wet dream on a blood-red divan, in a blood-red chamber cushioned with blood-red carpeting, draperies and Scheherazadian-throws. Crystal chandeliers sparkle overhead. The Devil has ordered Weston to prepare the captive Angel for some ordeal — although he looks pretty prepared to me. Lavish amounts of body makeup sculpt Patton's already

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Karnal Knowledge

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

a torch singer in a nightclub?

The long-awaited opportunity to offer up a Southern California female leather titleholder is rolling along on schedule. Last week it was announced that former California Leather Woman Vibby Bramlett and former Mr. Regiment Leather, Gene Mar will commence the Southern California Leather Woman contest taking place the weekend of Aug. 6-7. These two delightful people should inject a lot of fun into the proceedings. I hope you're making plans to attend. And remember, the first Southern California Leather Woman way back in about 1988 was Corky Davis who now resides in Seattle, the former wife of IMSL 1979, Judy Tallwing McCarthy!

Mr. SF Leather 2006

Whoever wins the title being given out on Saturday, September 24 will, besides hotel and airfare to Chicago for IML 2006, also get a \$1,000 cash prize! That's right, a cool One Thousand Dollars. A leather person who wishes to remain anonymous has generously agreed to donate that sum to the winner. Besides leather pride, community service and a dedication to the ideals of the Leather Tribe, this should give an incentive



Former Ms. World Leather Annie Romano hosts the annual "Butch Revue" in San Diego on Saturday, August 20. If you're interested in performing, contact her!

to some new faces.

'Butch Revue' in San Diego

If you have any talent whatsoever, Annie Romano wants YOU to perform at the annual "Butch Revue" taking place at the GLBT Center in San Diego on Saturday, from 1800 to 2130. The event moves from its old home, The Hole, to a bigger venue to benefit the Ms. World Leather endowment fund. If you're interested in "putting it out there" in Southern

California, let me know and I'll forward your interest to Annie!

Month end play

Dore Alley Weekend (July 29-30) will be busy around this campus. Besides the fair itself on Sunday, July 31st, the "action" begins on Wednesday, July 27th when Leather Buddies will kick the weekend off with their monthly play party (no white sneakers, cologne or attitude!) at 933 Harrison.

On Thursday, July 28, former Mr. SF Leather Troy Anicete hosts a "Pre-Dore Alley" party at the Powehouse with porno "actors", raffles, leather go-go boys, and other fun things with Stafford Hemmer MC'ing and Lenny Broberg auctioning. There will also be a (fun) Mr. Dore Alley Contest!

On Friday, July 29, Doug Mezacoppo will step aside for his successor, San Francisco Leather Daddy XXIII at the Eagle Tavern with an \$8 beer/soda bust. As far as I know, Saturday is up for grabs, but Sunday is the Fair and yes, in answer to your many inquiries, it WILL take place on Dore Alley!

All of the above should keep you busy planning for yourself and any out-of-town guests and believe me, there will be plenty! Have fun this weekend. And thanks to all of you who attended the Robert Davolt life celebration at Daddy's Bar (aka the 440 Club), last Saturday! ▼

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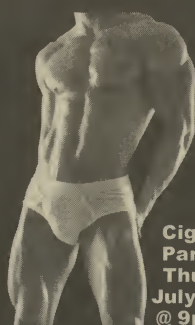
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photo (c) David Morgan

Good old friends

by Sweet Lips

Well, it seems as if something changed and David Kapp's new Deco Lounge will not be opening this week as I reported last column. We'll have to wait another six weeks or so. What a disappointment! However I'm sure it will be well worth the wait.

The N Touch Bar on Polk Street has a very large photo of Yours Truly hanging on the wall in

full color, taken by my favorite Post Mistress, Mr. Linda Miller. The hair and makeup were done by the very talented Mzs. Pat Montclair, and the gown by Empress Marlana. If I say so myself, I look terrific at 80! Watch for the upcoming anniversary party at the N Touch, with many surprises and lots of fun promised.



Sweet Lips

Speaking of photographs, check out the one of me and Gladys Bumps! That 'do of hers and her exquisite taste in Hawaiian floral prints sure turn heads!

That hunky Tim is still doing what he does best at the ever-popular Cinch Saloon. Stop by and see for yourself.

My neighbor, Jerry Olsen, is busy doing great things South of Market at the Lone Star Saloon. He always comes up with nifty ideas for the staff, and they have lots of fun.

My pal in New York City, Martin Ryder, will be celebrating his birthday on the 26th. Wish I could be there to buy him a drink or two. He tells me the bars in New York are very quiet, and all the summer action is on Long Island or over in New Jersey. How strange. What a mecca NYC used to be.

The wonderful Dick Deemer will be here for another visit on



Oldest & youngest Imperial Czarinas in SF: Sweet Lips with Gladys Bumps

August 8 for three weeks or so, so all of you Polkstrasse old-timers get out your datebooks and jot his name in for a get-together at your favorite local watering hole.

The popular Robbie (Helen Trent) is going on a three-week vacation to Europe! Cutting hair two days a week must be very profitable! Have a terrific time, Robbie!

Some friends had lunch over at

Harvey's in the Castro and said the food and service were outstanding. It's a busy hub there at the corner of Castro and 18th Street, a great place for people watching!

Mr. Lee-Ona's Bar in the Polk is still getting a nice crowd of steady customers. Boy, do I have a lot of memories from the time when I ran the place as the Kokpit many years ago! ▼



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Reaping the whirlwind

Social events keep piling up post-Pride

by Donna Sachet

Naturally, one would expect the social whirl to ease up a bit after such a hectic Pride Week schedule, but that doesn't mean this columnist has been staying at home!

Last Monday, a small band of friends, including Gary Virginia, Cockatielia, Deana Dawn, Richard Sablatu- ra, Norm Claybaugh, and Ben and Terry Penn, gathered at The Edge and then headed over to Mission Street for a night of comedy with the incredibly talented Shann Carr. Her involvement with the San Francisco LGBT community goes back for years, but she may be most recognizable today for her Atlantis cruise-ship appearances. That night, her great sense of timing and unerring humor kept the small but enthusiastic audience in stitches.

Not all social engagements are full of laughter, but they are no less significant. Saturday morning, 50 of us boarded a bus at Daddy's to head to the piers for a Bay cruise and ceremonial spreading of ashes at sea for recently deceased and much-respected Robert Davolt. The ever-attentive Lenny Broberg ably guided me through the complexities of Bay cruising, heels and all. On board were Mike Floyd, Dean Carrico, Mr. SF Leather Dodger Allen, Eric Bennett, Steve Gaynes, Peter Fiske, Rick Lubrano, and all manner of leather title-holders, largely there in support of Robert's bereaved lover Joe Granese, former owner of Daddy's. It was a perfect San Francisco Bay day, dotted with fog but pierced by sun, and with calm, soothing waters. We returned to Daddy's, where the current owners spared no expense for a two-hour reception with open bar and substantial food. Personal remarks

were shared. No one dies without leaving some memories of imperfection; even memorials should embrace the full, imperfect deceased with respect, humor, and slight exaggeration.

Citizen Kane

Saturday night, we emceed a benefit at Metropolitan Community Church that brought together a loving audience including Sheba!, MCC Pastor Penny Nixon, and SF Gay Men's Chorus Artistic Director Kathleen MacGuire, a lively raffle and auc- tion, barnstorming chorus, and lighthearted humor with porno-

On The Town



Porner-turned-Gospel-gal Candye.

star-turned-Gospel-songstress Candye Kane. This talented, joyful singer dazzled MCC with bawdy lyrics, soulful warbling, and touching stories, all representative of her storied past and her eventual acceptance and celebration of self. Development Director

of MCC Foundation Lea Brown dreamed up the evening and scored a successful event. You've got to find some of Kane's recordings and immerse yourself in her confident, spirited music.

After the benefit, we remembered the Two-Year Anniversary of Magnet that night, and arrived at the peak of the festivities. Quite a gaggle of Imperials and others were there, including Emmesses Tiger Lily, Alexis Miranda and Chablis, Emperor T.J. Istvan, Jason Ladd, Rick Leblanc, and City Treasurer Jose Cisneros. From the looks of the crowd, Magnet has a bright future as it pursues its mission of service to the Castro gay community.

Later that night, we made our rounds and found both Industry at Mezzanine and BUMP at Eight to be thriving. The music was pounding, and the men were in abundance.

This weekend, we'll be spending most of our time as a Board member at an EqualityCalifornia conference, and across the Bay at Alameda County's Ducal Coronation, but our spies will be scattered across the community keeping a watchful eye on parties, fundraisers, and general goings-on. This Sunday, don't miss an unusual collaborative effort of Building-In-Common, linking the LGBT community and the Ella Hill Hutch Community Center, serving lower and moderate income black families in the Western Addition. Handsome Julius Thurman is using the occasion of his 40th birthday to gather friends for a lively early evening starting at 4 p.m. at IMG Home, 1830 Harrison St., with entertainment from comedian Yayne Abeba, Beach Blanket Babylon's Phillip Williams and Tammy Nelson, and steel-drum enthusiast Anthony 'Cannon' Hernandez. Meanwhile, take time to enjoy the slightly slower social season, because the myriad of street fairs, fall benefits, and other special events of the fall season is closer than you think! ▼

Ismail Merchant

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Ismail's around.' But I never really felt that as much as I felt that wherever that came from inside of him was obviously a place of profound respect for his art, his actors and what he believed in. It came from love.

"The story that I like to tell about what it's like to work with Merchant Ivory is from the Venice Film Festival. We all stayed in the same place, which was a weird sort of palace that you could rent out. There was no maid service, we're making our own beds, cleaning up after ourselves for 10 days.

"One day while I was in Venice, I spent six hours stuffing envelopes for a party we were going to have, then chopping potatoes for the huge meal Ismail was going to cook for that party. It's almost mom and pop — to whatever degree we could run our own show, we did."

Good grief

For first-time director Chris Terrio, the experience of moving in a few quick years from film intern to helming a major Merchant Ivory production was almost indescribable, and the day we spoke, his grief was still palpable.

"I'm still a little woozy about it, because right before the premiere of *Heights*, I flew to London when I heard about his death, and I spent some time with James Ivory. It was just a complete shock.

"Ismail was just larger-than-life, so charismatic, always cook-

ing dinner for everyone and lifting the elephant of the film on his shoulders. I'm still in shock. He also became a mentor and almost like a grandfather to Jesse and me and whoever he took under his wing. So we're still trying to recover. Hopefully, *The White Countess*, his last film with James Ivory, coming out in the fall, will stand as part of his legacy."

Terrio says his experience getting to direct *Heights* illustrates how Merchant worked to nurture younger talent, and how he also put his own stamp on the work. "In the beginning, this was Ismail's baby. He bought the rights to the original love-triangle play it was based on. Ismail brought me an original draft of the script, saying, 'Can you do anything with this?'"

"The introduction of Glenn Close's Diana character was Ismail's idea. He said, 'Let's make a character of Isabel's mother, who's an actress.' Once it got going, he let us take over and find the movie ourselves. But he was the engine that started it."

Bradford, whose ambitious young actor character finds his way to the top passing through the bedroom of Close's character, says *Heights* reflects the emotional and artistic honesty that was a trademark of Merchant Ivory films. "The movie does a good job of pointing out the degree to which actors are treated like meat. It's like you're selling a slab of beef. My character has that put on him. It's not the focus of the film, though it's something that gets touched on in an accurate way." ▼

Heaven to Hell

◀ page 39

lush contours, and the scales on his simply gorgeous jock are gleaming mother-of-pearl. They're actually guitar picks, a high mark of costuming creativity. Too bad they clack like mah jong cubes as Weston gropes and licks. But the jock looks divine on Patton — oh my, how he fills it out.

But what is this we heard about the Ultimate Battle? There's no sign of it here. This angel's ready for action. No qualms, no quarrels, no sighs. Eternal damnation? He never heard of such a thing. That's gotta be the biggest, most devilish hard-on rather eagerly exceeding the confines of its mother-of-pearl cloister. Although I was distracted with worry over whether Weston's horns would break off during the action, I marveled at the lascivious love he lavishes first on Patton. And when Josh takes out his own lustrous goods, well, Patton goes right for it. He's superhorny. The massive, blunt-ended weapon that is his cock has never looked so beautiful, been filmed so flatteringly, or been as expertly handled as by Weston. This is one helluva horny, absolutely carnal scene; the movie's barely begun, and already lust has triumphed.

Honey comb

The pair engage in mesmerizing make-out and a religious rapport in rimming. But then, director La Rue makes a misstep. The introduction of Joe Sport to deflower the Angel dilutes Josh and Brad's blazing intensity, even though sturdy Joe fucks so damn good when Weston demands, "Fuck the good right out of him," that I expected a Honda hybrid, the complete films of Shirley Temple, and a brand-new score by Stephen Sondheim that's actually good to come exploding out of Patton's honeynut asshole. And although Patton subsequently im-

pales himself on Weston's cock for a breathtaking Reverse Cowboy, the ponderous weight of his cannon cock careening savagely between his thighs, the scene disappointingly climaxes with the trio jacking off together. *Quel* opportunity missed! La Rue shouldn't have settled for anything less than Patton's cumming while impaled — that's being conquered. What we get is a circle jerk.

So the Angel is defrocked. Actually defrocked, literally plucked of all his plumage. To celebrate, the Devil has a perfectly decadent orgy with his three sexy Dog Boys (Roman Heart, Tristan Adonis and Colby Taylor). Since this Devil knows on which side his buns are buttered, he services his servants, and in return the Dog Boys show him that they know how to bury their bones. The third scene records the tectonic upheaval of mountainous muscle, when vasty-scaled Matthew Rush and Erik Rhodes collide in hearty flip-flop fucks. For the finale, the fallen angel gladly joins the devil's crew as centerpiece of a wanton orgy with the movie's entire cast. Typically Falcon-like in its lack of cohesion, it still delivers a striking succession of thrills: Patton's monstrous, scary cock splitting asses right and left; an acrobatic three-man fuck chain in revealing Reverse Cowboy position; and the Devil himself being dildoeed.

The players of *H-to-H* comprise Falcon's entire stable of Exclusives, and to a man they earn their stardom. Just as the set is butch not by décor but by intent, the frenzied creativity of this project seems to have given the cast an unprecedented focus. They're caught the *louche* spirit of the thing, and make considerable swagger out of all the swish. So this fantasy flourishes because of and not despite its fripperies and furbelows. *Heaven to Hell* is positively peckerfying. www.Falcon-Studios.com. *Karnal Knowledge* reviews are archived at www.Reel-Guys.org. ▼

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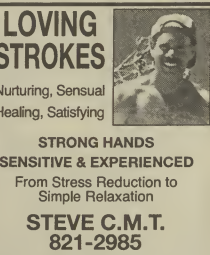
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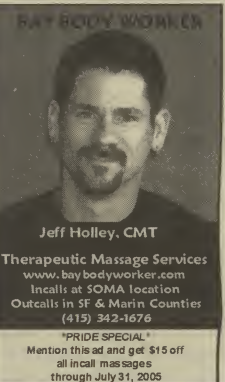
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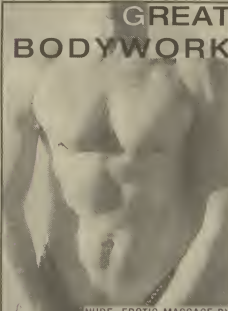
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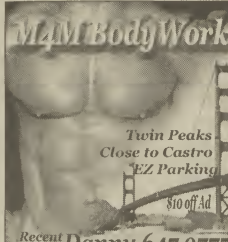
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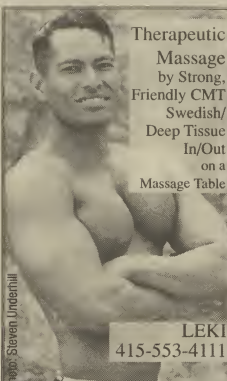


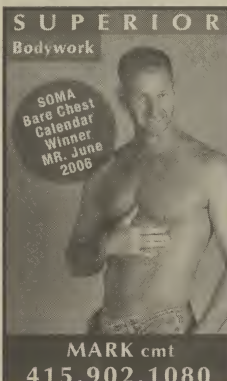
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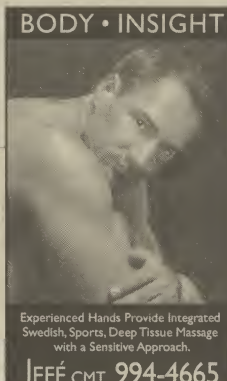
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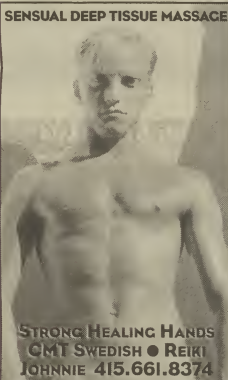
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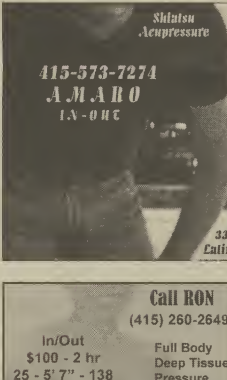
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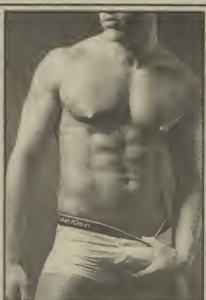
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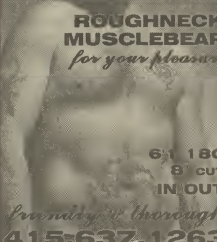
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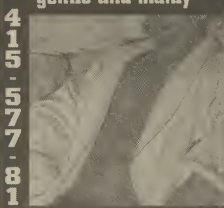
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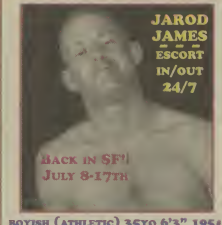
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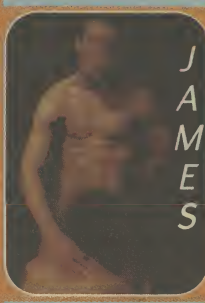
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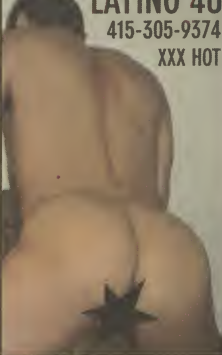
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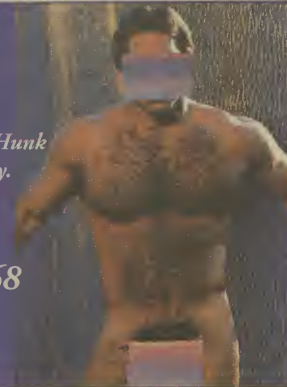
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Bottom Vs. Top
White Bottom Seeks Black Or Latino Top. In

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BART 6/26 SUN 6:30PM TO SOUTH

Me: Asian Male wearing Aberc. Sweat shirt, blue shirt, dark Cargo pants, sunglasses. You: White Mle with 2 friends. Our eyes connect. I got off @ San Bruno @ 7PM. ☎ 71580.

Bobby Giddens Seeking Tamara Ching
Anyone Knowing The Whereabouts Or Phone Number Is Asked To Call Or Leave Message. ☎ 71568

5/16 L Train Van Ness To Castro
Our Eyes Locked. You Passed Me And Smiled. I love Guys w/Glasses. You Were So Gorgeous I Couldn't Speak. ☎ 71571

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Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

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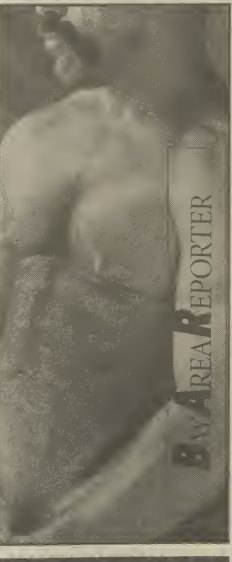
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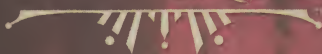
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